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A Plague of Insects.

Some clever thinkers declare that the numberless kinds of bugs, worms and flies which harm the crops are a blessing in disguise because they reduce the output of farm produce and so prevent a constant glut in the markets. At any rate they put skill and brains at a premium, for the farmer who would successfully fight the new pests that appear every year or two, must know something of which the old-timers never heard. Even with the vigorous warfare now carried on, an authority of the National Academy of Science estimates that one-tenth the total farm produce, or \$300,000,000 worth, is spoiled by insects every year. One-half of this is reckoned as loss to the staple crops. Credit is given to various insects about as follows: Hessian fly's damage to wheat, rye and barley one-tenth, or \$40,000,000; chinch bug, \$7,000,000; corn-root worm, ten to twenty per cent. in many States, certainly averaging five per cent., or \$37,000,000 of the corn crop; total to growing cereals, \$84,000,000. In seven Gulf States damage to corn has been estimated at twenty per cent. and at five per cent. for the whole country, making the total \$40,000,000. All other stored grain is estimated at three per cent., or \$30,000,000, making a total approximate damage to stored grain amounting to \$200,000,000. Grass and hay \$20,000,000. Cotton, by the cotton worm, boll-worm and boll-weevil, \$30,000,000 in 1902. Since then this loss has decreased, but Texas in 1904 lost \$8,000,000 by the boll-weevil, and \$15,000,000 is considered a low annual estimate of its work on cotton. Tobacco gave up eight per cent., or \$2,000,000, to a horde of insects; potatoes, six per cent., or \$10,000,000, to the Colorado potato beetle. No figures are given for fruits, truck, domestic animals and timber, but a moment's thought will show that the loss in these items must be enormous, although hard to estimate closely because of a lack of separate statistics for loss by insects.

The total value thus destroyed is a vast annual tax large enough to pay interest on all the improved roads, canals, schools, etc., that the most sanguine friends of the farmers might desire. Whether such destruction is a concealed blessing may well be doubted. At least nobody would care to assert that we have not already a plenty of harmful insects. Rather it should be a leading object of the agriculturist to prevent the introduction of further costly intruders of the gypsy-moth description.

Planting and Culture of Potatoes.

A careful and instructive paper on potato raising was given at the New Bedford (Mass.) Farmers' Institute last week, the speaker being Prof. W. P. Brooks of the State Agricultural College.

Professor Brooks pointed out that almost all of the varieties which have been introduced within the past dozen years have been subjected to careful trials in the experiment station at Amesbury. In every trial the old standard varieties, Beauty of Hebron and Early Rose, have been included; and while occasionally some of the newer varieties have excelled these in productiveness, both of these have always been found close to the head, and last year among some forty varieties the Beauty of Hebron gave the largest yield of all. Professor Brooks said that more apparently depended upon securing seed of good quality which has been well kept than on the name it chanced to bear. In Amesbury, Beauty of Hebron seed raised in northern Maine was found to give superior results to that of home production. The increase in yield and earliness was more than sufficient to cover the extra cost of the northern seed.

The importance of adopting methods of prevention of scab was pointed out. Soaking the seed for an hour and a half in a solution of corrosive sublimate at the rate of two ounces to fifteen gallons of water, or formally the rate of eight fluid ounces to fifteen gallons of water, has been found effective. The seed should be soaked before cutting.

Professor Brooks next called attention to the benefits of following budding seed potatoes. These should be washed and soaked in one of the solutions for prevention of scab and then spread in a thin layer in a moderate light room where the temperature will not fall below 45° or 50° F. by day. Here they should remain about four or five weeks, during which time the skin will turn green and short, tough sprouts will start. These sprouts are so thick and tough that the potatoes can be handled and planted without material injury to them. Potatoes so treated will give an earlier and better crop than those handled in the ordinary way. Tubers of medium size are to be preferred and they should be cut into pieces

containing about two eyes each.

The nature of the soil needed for success in potato growing was briefly spoken of. Bristol County possesses large areas of the moderately light loams which give an early crop of good quality.

The question of selection of fertilizers for potatoes was discussed at considerable length. The fact was pointed out that by purchasing unmixtured materials and combining them at home a considerable money saving is possible, and the following mixture of materials, it was stated, had given excellent crops in Amesbury. In each one hundred pounds was nitrate of soda fifteen pounds, dried blood eighteen pounds, tankage or dry-ground fish twenty pounds, acid phosphate thirty pounds, high-grade sulphate of potash seventeen pounds.

The mixture should be used in quantities varying from about 100 pounds to one ton per acre, according to the quality of the soil. Professor Brooks said that experiments in Amesbury and other places indicated that an application of fertilizers in the drill usually gave results with potatoes superior to those obtained by broadcast application, but where the quantity employed was heavy, it is probably best to apply about half broadcast, the balance in the drill, taking care to spread the latter somewhat widely the full length of the drill to avoid danger of burning the seed. Such danger is greater with such mixtures as he had recommended than with the ordinary potato fertilizer, as the materials were more concentrated.

"Very thorough preparation of the soil," said Professor Brooks, "is profitable." He called attention to the very heavy yield obtained by Professor Roberts in the Cornell Experiment Station without manures or fertilizers, as the result of exceedingly thorough tillage in preparation for the crop and during its growth.

If the soil permits the potato should be planted rather deeply in order to avoid the necessity of ridging, as the latter allows loss of a greater amount of water from the soil by evaporation.

Professor Brooks stated that where the crop is grown upon a large scale the use of the potato planter is almost a necessity, and he especially commended the work done by the Robbins planter.

The objects in view in the culture of the crop should be, not killing weeds, but the prevention of the growth of weeds, and the maintenance of a layer an inch or two in thickness of mellow earth at the surface for the purpose of checking evaporation of water from the soil. Culture should begin before the crop is up with the weeder or the smoothing harrow. It should be given frequently enough to prevent weeds starting. The weeder and harrow should at first be depended upon, but when the crop is a few inches high, a fine-tooth cultivator should be employed. The surface of the field should be kept as level as circumstances permit. If experience indicates that the tubers will become exposed to the air if there is no ridging, then the crop should be slightly ridged at the last cultivation. Prout's horse hoe is a useful implement for doing this work.

Experiments with Sheep.

The Maine station has representatives of five of the leading breeds, viz.: Shropshire, Dorset, Hampshire, Oxford and Cheviot. In the past the station has been able to carry during the summer months from twenty to thirty-five breeding Shropshire ewes on a paddock containing 65 acres which produced grass only. This work was continuous for six years, and the breeding animals averaged to weigh from 110 to 150 pounds each; shearing 84 pounds of wool, and yielding an average of 11-5 lambs each per year. During that time the animals were in perfect health. One of the investigations with sheep of interest is an attempt to determine the limits of intensive work by setting apart a tract of ten acres of good clay loam plow land and devoting it to the summer feeding and pasturing of about fifty ewes and lambs. The number will be increased or diminished as the food produced on the land indicates as necessary.

Another phase of work going on is the breeding of winter lambs from Dorset sheep. The high prices of light weight, but fat lambs, during the spring months argues strongly in favor of this system over summer and fall marketing of the later born lambs. The chief difficulty encountered is in getting the ewes to breed sufficiently early and a number of expedients to overcome this are being tried.

C. D. Woods.

Insuring a Fodder Supply.

Hay is likely to be scarce and high in the East still another season. Old hay has been cleared out more closely than usual in recent years. Nothing but a remarkable change in the conditions so far prevailing this season can prevent a short crop. Many wise farmers are forestalling a probable shortage by planting all spare land to fodder corn, Hungarian and the millets.

On some dairy farms there is plenty of land, but the manure has nearly all been used for early sowed crops and for seedling down. In such cases the question is between buying fertilizer, the purchase of standing grass or facing a reduction of live stock before the coming winter. Assuming a short hay crop, the problem will be worth thinking out for the conditions of the particular farms.

On good, strong, fairly moist soil and the use of high-grade fertilizer, aided by what manure can be had, usually secures a very profitable crop of fodder corn.

In some localities there are river and lowland natural mowings which never fail to produce fair crops of poor to medium hay. These mowings if bought cheap will greatly help in piecing out the winter supply of cow fodder. Poor hay requires more grain,

but grain is not likely to be so high in price as formerly. The summer, if a dry one, will make haying easy on lands which last summer were flooded nearly all the time.

Reduction of stock, the third alternative, is always practiced by large numbers of farmers after poor hay years, and for that reason cows must then be sold for less than their value, on account of the large number forced on the market. If there are poor cows in the herd the sooner they are sold the better, as a matter of course. But, luckily, many farmers will sell their best cows because the price looks attractive, and then winter a cull herd that could never pay even if hay were cheap.

Under average conditions the farmer may

of from \$100,000 to \$200,000 annually. It means enhanced valuation of farms and an improvement of general agricultural conditions.

All the counties in the State except Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauque, Franklin, Genesee, Kings, Queens, Richmond, Schoharie, Schuyler, Steuben, Tioga, Wayne and Wyoming have filed petitions requesting road improvement under the Highways Act. Already forty-six counties have petitioned for 344 miles of highways, and nineteen counties have had 186 miles finished. From no county where one piece of road has been finished has the State engineer failed to receive the second request for additional road construction.

more or less convinced that a home is made only on definite plans, carefully worked out, and that at once see the chance offered in going into the garden-truck lines.

Usually they lease or buy a farm near the market, or return to a homestead called "abandoned." These latter places are generally occupied by old folks, past profitable work, but not without enough to provide for their allotted time and more, but "abandoned" by the younger folks, for a taste of the world. After tasting, many return, bringing with them the results of their industry while away, and they go at farming with plenty of funds and modern machinery. And they are business folk, you can't say men, for the entire family is a big factor in the deal.

They usually employ several good farm hands, and "the boss" drives a milk and vegetable team to town, sells all he has to the hustling marketmen at the summer resorts; always does a cash business, and never takes chances on selling poor stuff. Others cater direct to cottage trade, and get a big thing out of it.

Then in the fall they "modestly enjoy themselves" by a family visit to relatives in the city. This kind of return to the soil is increasing yearly, but of course no faster than our coast resorts are gaining in population and popularity.

Serious Farming Conditions.

In Lewis County, as well as in other portions of the State, the farmers are beginning to think seriously in regard to the alarming drought. But one moderate rain has fallen since April 10. In the lime-rock and clay soil there is little moisture left to keep vegetation alive. Feed in pastures has become dry and has lost its milk-producing qualities. Cows are beginning to shrink badly in many localities, according to the make of the land. A drought in the spring is something phenomenal in this section.

Farmers are continuing to plow for putting in corn, as the prospect for a large hay crop looks discouraging. Even if rains should come soon, we do not look for a full crop of hay this season. The price of milk at the stations grows less as the season advances. It has fallen below \$1 per hundred pounds now. There is about as much profit from the cheese factories at present, where the patrons get the byproduct for their pigs and calves. Cheese keeps up well in price.

Veal calves are still in good demand, and large shipments are being made weekly by our local dealers. Last week they went for 5 cents per pound, live weight. That is considered a fair price for May. They generally bring far less during the late spring months. Pork is not plenty, and price is high. Our local butchers pay 7½ and eight cents per pound, dressed, while shippers are paying 6½ cents, live weight. Spring pigs, four weeks old, will sell readily for \$3 each, and are very scarce at that. May brings from \$10 to \$12 per ton, with prospects of its going higher in a short time.

Unless late frosts interfere there are good prospects for a fruit season. Fruit trees of all kinds blossomed very full, and the weather was warm at the time. Buyers are offering fifty cents per bushel for old potatoes to ship. There are plenty of them in the county.

P. E. WHITE.

Lewis County, N. Y., May 25.

President Roosevelt on Good Roads.

The fact that the nation's chief executive attended the National Convention at St. Louis and participated in the proceedings, indicates the importance which the good roads movement has attained. The fact that the convention unanimously endorsed the national aid plan also indicates the trend of sentiment in that direction. President Roosevelt spoke in part as follows:

During the last century there has been altogether phenomenal growth in one kind of road, wholly unknown to the people of old—the iron road. The railway is, of course, something purely modern. Now, a great many excellent people have proceeded upon the assumption that, somehow or other, having good railroads are a substitute for having good highways—good ordinary roads. A more untenable position cannot be imagined. What the railroad does is to develop the country, and, of course, its development implies that the country will need more and better roads.

A few years ago, it was a matter, I am tempted to say, of national humiliation that there should be so little attention paid to our roads—that there should be a willingness not merely to refrain from making good roads, but to let the roads that were in existence become worse.

DEVELOPMENT OF FARMING DISTRICTS.

The excessive, the wholly unheard-of rate of our industrial development during the past seventy-five years, together with the good sides has had some evil sides. It is a fine thing to see our cities built up, but not at the expense of the country districts. The healthy thing is to see the building up of both the city and the country. But we cannot expect the best, the most eager, the most ambitious young men to stay in the country, to stay on the farm, unless they have certain advantages. If farm life is a life of isolation and mental poverty, a life in which it is a matter of great difficulty for one man to communicate with his neighbor, you can rest assured that there will be a tendency to leave it on the part of those very people whom we should most wish to see stay on the farm.

It is a good thing to encourage in every way any tendency to check an unhealthy flow from the country to the city. There are several tendencies in evidence. The growth of electricity as applied to means of transportation tends to a certain degree to exercise a centrifugal force to offset the centripetal force of steam. Exactly as the uses of steam have tended to

gather men into masses, so now electricity, as applied to transportation, has tended to scatter them out again. Trolley lines running out into the country are doing a great deal to render it possible to live in the country, and yet not lose the advantages of the town. The telephone is not to be minimized as an instrument with a tendency in the same direction. Rural free delivery is playing its part along the same lines. But no one thing can do as much to offset the tendency toward an unhealthy trend from the country into the city as the making and keeping of good roads.

GOOD ROADS AND THE FARMERS.

They are needed for the sake of their effects upon the industrial conditions of the country districts, and I am almost tempted to say that they are needed even more for their effect upon the social conditions of the country. If winter means to the average farmer the existence of a long line of liquid morasses, through which he has to move his goods if bent on business, or to wade and swim if bent on pleasure; if winter means that, if an ordinary rain comes the farmer's girl or boy cannot use his or her bicycle, if a little heavy water means a stoppage of all communication, why you have got to expect that there will be a great many young people of both sexes who won't find farm life attractive.

It is for this reason, among others, that I feel the work you are doing is so pre-eminent one for the interest of the nation as a whole. I congratulate you upon the fact that you are doing it. In our American life it would be hard to overestimate the amount of good that has been accomplished by associations of individuals who have gathered together to work for a common object which was to be of benefit to the community as a whole. And among all the excellent objects for which men and women combine to work today, there are few indeed who have a better right to command the energies of those engaged in the movement, and the hearty sympathy and support of those outside, than this movement in which you are engaged.

Cultivating the Crops.

Where the preparatory work for the crops, corn and potatoes, was properly done, that of their after cultivation will be more easily done. There is a great contrast between this spring and last, as regards the weather and work on the farm.

One year ago it was very hard getting the seed into the ground in any fair condition or season, on account of the continual rains; while this spring there has been no delay in work on account of bad weather.

This work has been well done and in better season than usual. But soil is getting very dry and a good rain is much needed to help the crops along. There has been no rain to speak of for a long time. It is remarkable that vegetation appears so thrifty, and it must be owing to a large amount of water in the ground from early storms, that has since been slowly drawn upon for surface moisture. There are present signs of rain, which it is to be hoped we shall soon get.

On account of the dry weather corn as a usual thing has been planted somewhat earlier than usual. Our own planting was completed on May 15, but of course this work will be continued for some time yet. Owing to the large amount of corn now grown mainly as a crop for fodder, the work of cultivation will be correspondingly increased.

One great advantage farmers now have over former years, is in having tools so made as to admit of the work being done much faster and better. But it is necessary for best results that this work be commenced early and continued until no longer needed. The weeder, an implement meant for the first cultivation of the corn crop, or until it gets too large for the purpose, is well designed for the work. It takes a wide sweep, runs shallow, just stirring the surface soil covering the entire ground without regard to the corn. But there is little danger of injury on this account, while the loosening of the entire surface soil will be found of great advantage.

But to be the most successful with the implement it should be started in season a little ahead of the grass or weeds. It will not matter even if the corn is not above ground. The weeder should be used every few days. A large area can be gone over a day, and if it is dry this frequent stirring of the top soil will form a mulch, preventing the too rapid evaporation of the water from underneath.

After a time it will be necessary to make use of the cultivator in this work. There are various forms of these, and the farmer should select the best for his purpose. In my vicinity a two-horse spring-tooth machine is used and much liked. This goes astride the rows, thus working very close to the crop, corn or potatoes, in this way doing better work than most other kinds.

Another thing, the ground between the rows is cultivated twice at one time, doing away with the hand hoe.

The old rule used to be to hoe corn twice and potatoes once. But this was at a time when suitable implements for cultivation were not in existence and the work had to be largely done with the hand hoe, requiring much time and hard labor, as the writer well knows.

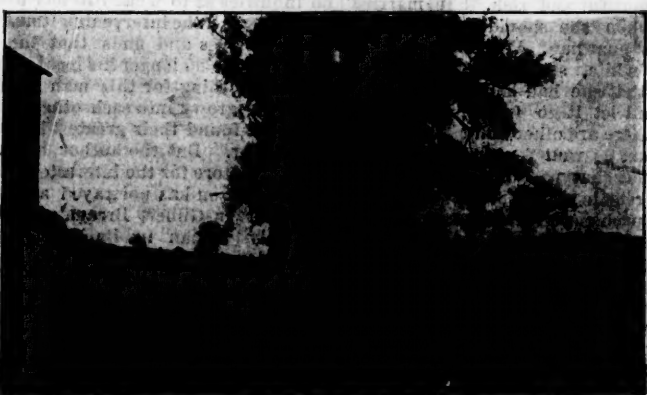
No such rule should apply now. The crop should be cultivated as often and so long as needed. In this way the soil will be kept mellow, encouraging the growth of corn or potatoes, while that of grass or weeds will be kept down, which is of the utmost importance on a farm.

After the corn gets well to growing it will not be long before the ground will be occupied and shaded with the crop, so that there will be little chance for grass or weeds.

GOOD ROADS IN NEW YORK STATE.



Road before improvement.



State road in progress, June, 1902.



Road completed, July 23, 1902. North-east from Troy, N. Y. Showing improvement by State Engineer. Base and top of crushed local quarlites; base bound with screenings of same and top bound with screenings of Canadian's limestone.

combine various methods of insuring himself against a shortage in fodder. He may plant what corn, etc., he can under fairly safe and inexpensive conditions. He may keep a lookout for bargains in grass and buy early if needed, and he may watch his herd carefully and sell off the poorest as soon as he gets a chance. These measures, too, are likely to prove pretty good policy for a dairy farmer during any kind of a season.

New Roads in New York State.

A few months work under direction of the State engineer makes a wonderful change in the old roads. The illustrations, furnished under direction of State Engineer E. A. Bond, show a sample road in Rensselaer County before, during and after rebuilding. Fillings have been made, grades reduced, foundations and drains laid and proper road material applied.

In some sections, a part of the work has been done by convicts. Broomes County reports that the practice reduced the number of prisoners under sentence from an average of forty-two for the year prior to an average of less than eleven, thereby making a net saving in the maintenance of prisoners of over \$4000 per annum, and also an additional saving in the charges for turnkey's fees and discharges, as provided for by law, under what was known as the old fee system. I think it can be safely stated that the system adopted by this one county, by placing prisoners under sentence at hard labor, has resulted in a saving to the county in the costs of maintenance and as a result of their labor, of at least \$8000 per annum.

Highways in the neglected condition in which they are found today throughout the State isolates the farmer from from three to five months in the year, drives the young man or woman to the city or village as a result of discontentment, and is creative of a more and more a problem difficult of solution.

An improvement of the system of highways of the State of New York means a saving to the agriculturist in the delivery of his product to the local markets of from \$7,000,000 to \$10,000,000 annually. It means a saving to the average county of the State

in fact many counties are very much alive to the advantages to be obtained, and systematic efforts have been made to lay out long stretches of highway in order to make systematic plans for the country and to cheapen the cost of construction.

Since a year ago, in January, twenty-seven counties have appropriated \$2,007,812.50 as their half of the cost of constructing 470 miles of highway during the coming year, and it remains for the State of New York to appropriate an equal amount as its half of the cost of construction as provided by the law.

Under the Highways-Armstrong act the State grants aid to the amount of fifty per cent. of the cost of construction under the supervision and direction of the State engineer department, the counties having elected to pay thirty-five per cent. of the cost by a resolution of the board of supervisors, provided the resolution is based upon a petition either of a supervisor or the town board or abutting property owners, which makes a fifteen per cent. charge as against the town or abutting property owners. The Fuller law is a supplement to the preceding, and provides fifty per cent. State aid for the care and repair of side roads.

F. D. LYON.

Seashore Farming.

All along our rural roads, especially near Mt. Desert Island, Me., may now be noted many instances of prosperity and signs of progress, and who the people are and who are carrying on improved farming is an interesting study, as described by a local newspaper. In Hancock County such places as Bar Harbor and the coming resorts at Seal, Northeast and Southwest Harbors, account for much of it, scattered all along the miles and miles of pleasant roads of Mt. Desert Island, for these resorts are an ever-growing market for choice native garden truck.

The shores of Frenchman's bay give notable signs that such market gardens are conducted there, too. The proprietors of many of these farms are what the public calls "rounders," that is, they are intelligent, able-bodied men who have worked in many places and at many sorts of labor, and during their "rounder" career they become

Butter Firm, Cheese Lower.

The market is steady with receipts a little less, demand moderate and prices of some grades ruling one-half cent higher than last week. The market situation on the whole is satisfactory for the season, but the firmness is largely because of the poor pasturage and decreased milk yield. Extra choice lots of Northern creamery bring 22 cents in tubs and 23 cents in boxes or prints. The print and box goods are in too large supply and sell with some difficulty comparatively. Top dairy quotation is 21 1/2. Dairy stock in tubs is less plenty than in boxes, and tub packing is advised except for special lots. Inferior grades of dairy are in poor demand at prices holding last week.

Chapin & Adams: "The market is firm at 1/2 cent above last week. The drought and cold weather has kept back the pastures and lessened the output. Not much stock is yet going into storage here. The outlook is good from the seller's point of view."

Cheese is in moderate supply, but demand is rather light. Quality of much of the new make is not very attractive to consumers. Prices in Boston and also at most other markets are a fraction lower. Old cheese can still be had and at unchanged prices, but there is not much of it left. Most of the sales of best new twin cheese are at 12 cents, with fair to good selling at 10 to 11 cents.

The New York butter market shows little change since last week. Receipts have been rather large, being nearly twenty-five thousand packages for Monday and Tuesday of this week. Demand is sufficient to take care of the supply, with some help from storage men who are buying several thousand packages a day. The situation is firm, and some dealers are holding in expectation of an advance. The bulk of extra creamery sells at 22 cents, with a few fancy lots a fraction higher, and some poor lots selling as low as 18 cents. The market for dairy butter is rather quiet and holds mostly at 20 to 21 cents. Imitation and other factory grades are rather scarce.

Cheese arrives freely, with a larger proportion of large white. Demand is moderate. Exporters are buying fairly well at about 11 1/2 cents. The declining tendency of nearly all lines of cheese has caused retailers to buy in rather small lots of late, but the drop is much less than has often occurred at this season. A year ago there was an average fall of about 2 cents at about this time. Pasturage conditions this year are very much less favorable and prices are not considered likely to reach a low level.

Makers of renovated butter, representing, it is claimed, about forty concerns, seem to have made some sort of a secret agreement at their recent meeting in Chicago. It is asserted that a committee was appointed and the packing stock will all be purchased by this committee. The committee will then sell the butter to such members to the agreement as desire it. This packing stock is the more or less renovated stuff which is bought as raw material by the makers of renovated. There are something over fifty process butter manufacturers in the entire country, and about forty of them are said to belong to the association.

Dealers who handle renovated butter generally agree that such products are gaining ground at the expense of honest butter on the one side and of oleo on the other.

Said a Boston buyer who has been traveling through the West: "It looks as if process butter would be a strong competitor for creamery the coming season. The process makers get packing stock so much lower than they can sell at a much lower figure than a year ago. If we lay down process at five cents lower than creamery, I am satisfied we will do a big business the coming season in that line. In the way of oleo the outlook is very light. The make is not so large as last year. Of course prices had a great deal to do with this. The fight made on colored oleo favoring uncolored product seems to have been a boomerang. It looks to me as if the creamery interests would have been better served had the old law been left unchanged. The great increase in manufacture of process butter looks like a third party had slipped in and gotten the advantage."

A letter from the secretary of the Manila Chamber of Commerce, in acknowledging receipt of some sample of canned butter shipped from San Francisco, says it arrived in first-class condition. This letter suggests that there is a ripe field for the successful introduction of butter in the Philippines, as no butter or milk is produced at Manila, but all is shipped in under cold storage from Australia.

Exports from Boston for week were two thousand pounds butter and 113,339 pounds of cheese. Receipts for the week at Boston, 30,321 tubs and 30,134 boxes, or 1,492,802 pounds butter, 429 boxes cheese, besides 284 boxes for export, and 27,756 cases eggs, compared with corresponding week last year 33,749 tubs, 25,309 boxes, or 1,637,892 pounds butter, 207 boxes cheese and 28,698 cases of eggs. Receipts at New York were 37,700 packages butter, 5400 packages cheese and 29,500 cases eggs. Same week last year, 45,376 packages butter, 21,372 packages cheese and 31,844 cases eggs.

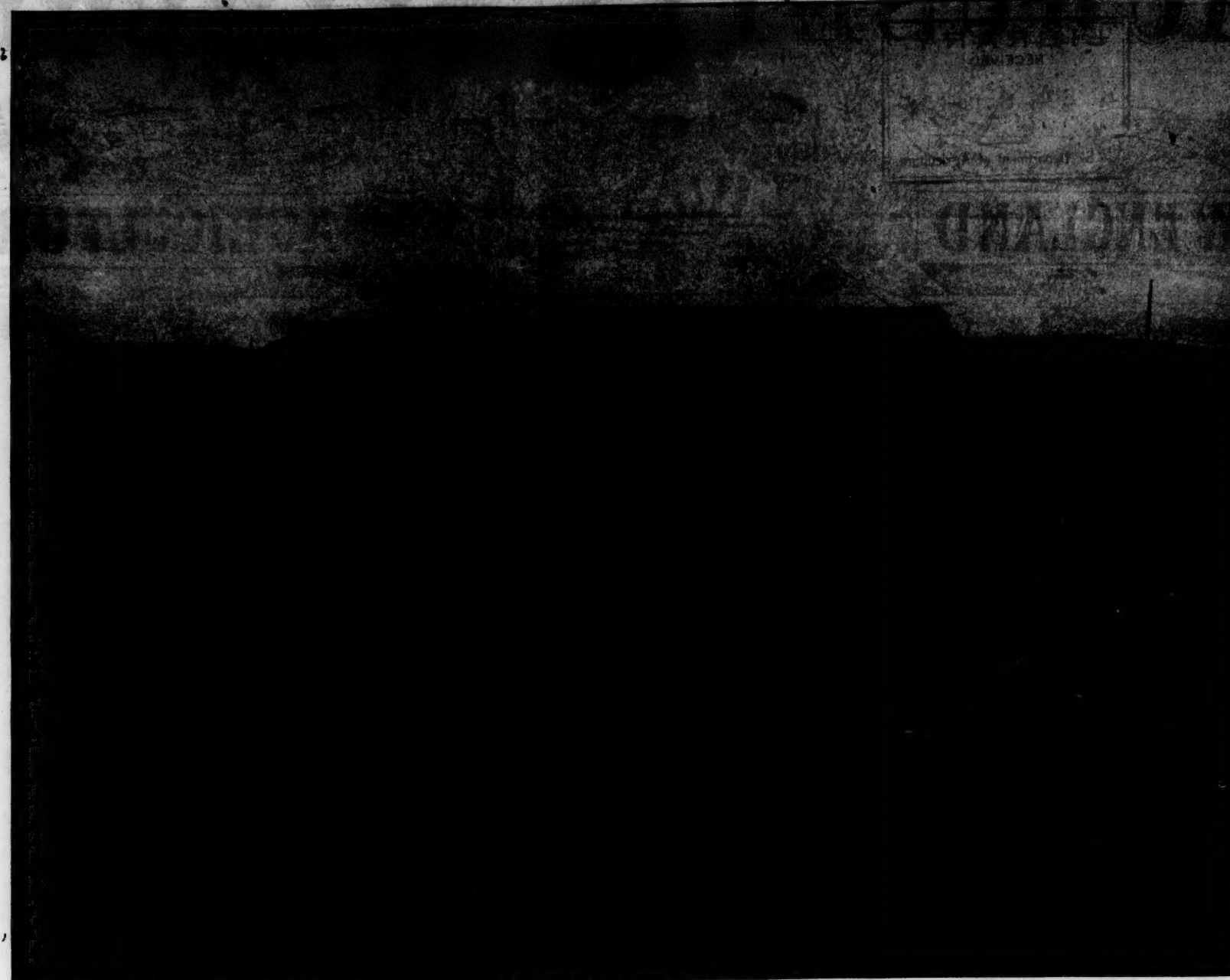
Active Vegetable Trade.

Boston dealers report demand seasonably good in most lines. Dry weather and frost has reduced receipts of native fresh vegetables. The market for old potatoes is irregular, lower grades being weak and inclined to decline in price, while best lots are fully up to last quotations. Dealers say that the bulk of the potato trade is still in old stock, the quality of which has held up very well this season. When quality becomes poor many consumers, able to afford the change, will shift to new Southern stock.

Onions, mostly Egyptian and Bermuda, are in better supply and selling a little lower. Old beets, turnips, carrots and parsnips are still in the market at unchanged prices. Native asparagus is in light supply, and prices have held well of late. Rhubarb is down to 1 cent a pound, which is as low a price as most growers can ship for. The supply is ample, but less than doing some recent seasons. Dandelions are done for the season. Hothouse stuff is much depressed by the abundant shipments from the South.

Tomatoes in particular have been hard to dispose of, and cucumbers are lower. Southern peas are plenty and rather poor in quality. Florida sweet corn has arrived and summer squashes are more plenty. Green beans are in oversupply.

Potatoes at New York are in light demand for old stock, with prices steady. New stock is in rather light supply. Sweet potatoes do not seem to be much wanted at present. New onions from Texas arrived Thursday. Asparagus is selling a little higher on account of short supply. Bunch beets and carrots are lower, cucumbers steady, cabbages in demand and higher, string beans lower, squashes plenty, likewise tomatoes.



EXTERIOR VIEW OF COLISEUM, ST. JAMES PARK.

Site of present Museum of Fine Arts. Coliseum built for National Peace Jubilee, held June 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 1869.

Hay Fairly Steady.

The markets are mostly in good shape, with supplies light or moderate and prices averaging about as last quoted. There is but little of the best grades left, and bulk of receipts are rather ordinary. Naturally the demand is active for what choice hay can be had.

The New York market shows a slight decline in prices on account of receipts of over ten thousand tons during last week.

Boston market is steady, with best hay scarce, lower grades tending to advance and rye straw higher on light supply and moderate demand. Receipts for the past week were 324 cars of hay, fifty-seven cars of which were billed for export, and thirteen of straw. Corresponding week last year the receipts were 465 cars of hay, 346 cars of which were billed for export, and twenty-two cars of straw.

Chicago reports liberal receipts and lower prices. Cincinnati higher. Southern markets firm except for low grades, which are dull at quotations.

The prospect of a short crop this year has caused holders of old hay to become very firm in their views. The drought has prevailed in eastern Canada as well as in the United States, and Canadian farmers who have considerable hay yet to be sold are advancing their price, or waiting.

The following are the highest prices for hay in the markets mentioned: Boston \$20, New York \$23, Jersey City \$22, Philadelphia \$20.50, Brooklyn \$22, Buffalo \$16.50, Pittsburgh \$18.50, Kansas City \$13, Minneapolis \$15.50, Minneapolis prairie \$12.50, Baltimore \$20.50, Chicago \$15.50, Richmond \$19.50, Cincinnati \$18.75, Washington \$19, Montreal \$10, St. Louis \$15.

The demand at this season varies considerably with the weather, being very light during a warm spell. Under the best weather conditions the market is rather limited, owing to the growing abundance of fresh vegetables and Southern fruit.

Oranges have been cheap of late and have competed somewhat with apples. Prices, however, rule unchanged in Boston market, but it has been at times rather hard to obtain full quotations, many lots now being more or less unsound. Some very fine large Missouri Ben Davis were on sale this week at above top quotations. They had been in cold storage. Most lots of Davis now on the market bring less than best Russets. These two varieties hold most of the trade, only a few Baldwins, Spies and Kings remaining.

The New York apple market has been in rather bad shape on account of large supplies for the season and poor demand. Prices were quoted considerably lower, but are now improving. Apparently the storage houses had been cleaning out their stock, but the movement seems to be over. It is said that western New York stock is practically cleaned up with the exception of some twenty to thirty thousand barrels. Gleason is said to be still holding some seven thousand barrels and a few stray cars here and there.

Literature.

For all human beings life holds some roads in common, such as those of joy and sorrow, work and play. Annie Elliot Trumbull's men and women in her latest book seem to have to toll over very rugged places. Even when Mrs. Trumbull leaves her characters they stand not in the way of happiness, but there stretches out ahead of them long paths of stern, uncompromising duty. It is of life that Mrs. Trumbull is writing, but we are a perverse people, and although we demand real living tales, we desire a happy ending. This novel has no complicated parts, but the types of character have pronounced personalities. There is Ursula Morcraft, the heroine, who has to learn many difficult lessons. That she has her own words in the concluding chapter: "There was a time when I felt that I had a right to keep away from what would deteriorate—would injure what I call my character—to get away at all hazards—that I owed it to myself. Since then I have realized that one may owe it to one's self to stay instead of to go—to stay and let one's character deteriorate if it will. That was one of the hardest lessons I had to learn."

When Ursula said the foregoing, she had been through many phases of experience. She was beautiful and rich. She married Morcraft when she should have married Engham, her guardian. When she had been married a while, she awakened to the knowledge that she had had happiness in her hand and let it go from her. Ursula knew that there are other things than love, but "it is just as well for a woman not to marry without that particular sentiment."

"Shall she remain with Morcraft or not?" is Ursula's problem. It takes time, but she decides that it is best for her to remain. There are other interesting characters in "Life's Common Way" besides Ursula, Morcraft and Engham. There is Hutchins Ingledew and his wife Ida. Hutchins is a financier of great power, ruthlessly cruel whenever an obstacle stood in his way. Ida Ingledew is a woman of narrow views, always cool and serene in her eternal righteousness. There is the bright, witty, clever "Teddy" Siddons, who marries without love because she knows she can never have Engham whom she loves. Her marriage has made her reckless, and one can foresee the divorce court for her eventually. All these people seem to be victims of fate, kismet. Happiness there is none, but much opportunity for duty. Many of the characters do their duty from various incentives, and Mrs. Trumbull's characters perform theirs, because being constituted as they are and the circumstances being as they are, they must. Mrs. Trumbull has narrated her story with delicate touches of wit and humor, and the novel contains artistic bits of description which offset the sustained tension of strong emotions throughout the book. The author does not admit that happiness lies along "Life's Common Way." She makes it a tantalizing, winsome vision which, because of the stern realities of life, is never realized. [New York: A. S. Barnes & Co. Price, \$1.50.]

Selfishness is one of the dominating traits of humanity, but some men and women conquer it and bury it deep. In "Barbara, a Woman of the West," by John H. Whitson, the power that pure selfishness may obtain over one's nature is exhibited in varying degrees by the different characters. There is the patient, self-denying Barbara Timberley, who gives up everything for her husband, Roger Timberley, a self-centered literary man. On the other hand, Gilbert Bream, a strong, manly man of the world, rushes out all of self, and nearly loses his life in denying himself for love of Barbara. Beside Barbara and Bream is contrasted the weak husband, unworthy of the devotion which Barbara displays. The plot is simply constructed and the strength of the novel lies in the development of characters. Mr. W. son vividly portrays the struggles through which the souls of Barbara Timberley and Gilbert Bream pass. The story opens with Barbara and her husband in their prairie home. A traveler comes for rest and refreshment, is taken sick and on recovery presents the couple with a Cripple Creek mining claim, warning them that it may be worthless. Roger, eager for a change, determines to look up the claim and Barbara sees him take his departure. Left alone on the lonely Kansas prairie, she naturally expects to hear from her husband by mail. One letter comes, and then all is silent. At last in despair she starts in search of him. This is the beginning of fruitless travels. At Cripple Creek Barbara finds that the mine has been sold, as the claim had expired, and she therefore goes to work in a newspaper office to earn sufficient money to continue her search. After many months of journeying from Colorado to the Pacific coast, Barbara becomes the wife of Gilbert Bream, who, it eventually appears, is the owner of the mining claim, which was originally presented to the Timberleys. One day after marriage Barbara reads a novel, and she instantly knows that Roger must have written it. She seeks out the author and learns that he is in a Denver hospital, having been injured by being run over by a cab. The crucial moment has arrived for the three main characters. Roger explains that he had been out of his mind temporarily, forgot to mail letters and wandered about until he was taken to an asylum. All this he tells Barbara after the shock caused by his

accident restores his reason. He accepts her presence as a matter of course, making no inquiries as to what life has brought to her during all the intervening time. Gilbert Bream arrives and finds that the woman he married is no longer his legal wife. It is an awful thing for this man and woman who have grown into each other's lives and who have found their greatest happiness in each other. But the author has a happy ending in store for the interested reader.

Mr. Whitson has portrayed an admirable character in Gilbert Bream, and a sweet, womanly woman in Barbara. In Roger Timberley there is selfishness personified, and one becomes impatient with Barbara's devotion to such a poor specimen of manhood. There are some strong scenes in the book, and the Western local color is evidently presented by one who knows his ground. Some of the circumstances attending Roger's continued absence are rather improbable, but, on the whole, Mr. Whitson has written an entertaining story of the West. [Boston: Little, Brown & Co. Price, \$1.50.]

Stage life from the actor's or actress's standpoint is always interesting when the information comes from one conversant with the subject. John D. Barry in "A Daughter of Thebes" portrays the lives of two girls who are making their living on the stage. They have characters widely different. Evelyn Johnson is rather Puritanical in her views, and is the quiet, unassuming heroine of the book, while Madge Guernsey is quick-witted, vivacious and talkative. In the summer vacation, spent at Cohasset, Evelyn makes the acquaintance of a Mr. and Mrs. Webb, the former a one-time writer of books, given to self-analysis, but an interesting character without. The theatrical season opens again and the two actresses live together in a flat in New York. About this time a new character is introduced, a Mr. Thayer, a writer of plays in which the two girls appear. He has not in the past held a very exalted opinion of stage folk, but he changes his opinions after he becomes acquainted better with Evelyn and Madge. He is a character with a strong personality and he becomes an ardent admirer of Evelyn. His rival for her hand and heart is Mr. Webb, now a widower. The love interest is well sustained, especially the portions devoted to irresistible Madge and her worshippers. The great charm of the book, however, lies in the faithful depicting of the ins and outs of theatrical life, all of which is told in a leisurely manner from first-hand knowledge. It is not that there are no novels in which the stage has a part, for we are frequently given unrealistic glimpses of behind-the-curtain scenes. Mr. Barry, however, has been discriminating and realistic in his portrayal of the real men and women who go to make up the rank and file of actors and actresses. He gives not alone the glamour which the theatergoer sees from the "front" of the house, and which he reads with so much avidity, but he has not omitted to enumerate the everyday routine of stage folk, giving the little-known side of their professional lives. For this reason the book possesses a charm which is seldom to be found in novels dealing with the theatre. The book is a whole-some one, too, and whatever it may lack in original plot construction is made up in the real color of the green room. [Boston: L. C. Page & Co. Price, \$1.50.]

Among the recently issued volumes in the authoritative "American Sportsman's Library" is "The Water-Fowl Family," prepared by Leonard C. Sanford, T. S. Van Dyke and L. B. Bishop. "An almost irresistible desire," writes Mr. Sanford in the opening chapter, "comes over most men at times to change the routine of civilized life for the quiet and solitude of the wild. Forest, field, water, all offer their inducements, in many instances combining with hardships and fatigue; and yet to him who loves it, actual suffering often only adds to the satisfaction of reward, doubly pleasing as the result of endurance and patience. With a large number of these individuals to whom a gun and all that goes with it is dear, the wild duck brings up the pleasantest recollections and anticipations. The ponds and lakes of the North and the prairie sloughs, come before him, where they nested and

spent the summer, restless at the time of approaching fall for the Southern migration. He remembers drifting down the river with a gentle current, amid October foliage, to where alders and willows lined the bank and darkened the water; where he saw the ripple that betrayed the presence of the wild duck before they took wing with frightened splashing." In an attractive manner Mr. Sanford proceeds to draw a picture of scenes familiar to the sportsman. At the same time, the methods by which wild fowl are hunted are delineated in a general way. The writer maintains that a method which represents fairness and skill is the one "which consists in waiting for the birds along the line of flight, and can be practiced whenever the flocks take any particular course on land." In considering the subject of duck shooting, Mr. Sanford gives a concise synopsis of the breed and peculiar habits of each species of fowl. Illustrations assist in making the peculiarities of each breed of fowl clearly defined.

Mr. Van Dyke, who has collaborated with several other writers of books for "The Sportsman's Library," in this volume confines himself to the subject, "The Water-Fowl of the Pacific Coast." Mr. Van Dyke's style is less scholarly than Mr. Sanford's, and by way of contrast adds to the interest of the book. One feels as if the latter was instructing the reader, while the former seems to take one into his confidence and talk on the subject in a most friendly manner. The authors of the book impress upon the reader the great natural beauty of the game birds amid their natural surroundings. There is much admirable water-painting in the book of woodland waters, and much information upon the subject of duck shooting and the nature and habits of water fowl. At the end there are "diagnoses of families and genera," which are of valuable assistance to every sportsman in condensing and retaining in his mind the necessary technical knowledge. The book is entertaining without being dry, even to the reader who is not a confirmed sportsman. It is an exceedingly creditable addition to the new library which promises to become the American Badminton. [New York: Macmillan & Co. Price, \$2 net.]

A book bearing the above title comes to us from James Henry Foss. He is its publisher as well as its author, and his recollections have the frankness of the "Confessions of Rousseau," without the indecency of that classic autobiography. Mr. Foss has had a varied and interesting career and has been, by turns, emigrant, farmer, book agent, schoolmaster, preacher, stump-speaker, town builder and tourist, and in all his wanderings he has preserved a philosophic disposition which has prevented him from being hard and cynical, in spite of many bitter experiences in which his anticipations were not realized. He writes in a clear, natural, off-hand manner, and has a fund of spontaneous humor that makes his pages constantly absorbing. He has, too, a felicity in quotation that is not possessed by many writers of the day, and in this respect recalls Hazlitt and other authors of a generation long past. He begins his autobiographical narrative with an account of his birth in the wilds of Maine, and follows it with allusions to his boyhood days in Massachusetts as a farmer's boy, and his early schooling. The pictures he furnishes of New England life a half century or so ago are always pleasantly realistic, though, of course, they have their sombre side. Perhaps his experiences in Florida, as set down in print, will prove of most interest to the general reader in all parts of the country, and he certainly writes enthusiastically about the State, furnishing many details concerning it that others have failed to observe or present. His description of the Seminoles and of their so-called negro slaves is certainly a novel revelation. After the reminiscences proper Mr. Foss supplies some unusual information of the peculiar people known as the Florida Croakers. Taken it for all in all the volume is vastly entertaining, and is well adapted for summer reading. The author is a wit and a man of imagination, who has a sensible way of regarding the practical things of this work-a-day world. The book is an attractive one in binding, typography and illustrations.

Gems of Thought.

....The best and truest help we can give to others is not mere present gratification, but strength, courage and cheer, that they may rise into nobler, worthier life, and go on continually with new energy and hope. If their condition, when you find one in need through his own weakness, to give him money to supply his wants, thus to help him into a position in which he will learn to earn his own bread. It may be easier, but after you have provided for his necessities for a time, short or long, you leave him where you found him, in poverty, with no power more than before to care for himself. But you have ignored his plea for aid, and instead have taught him to work, and inspired him to work, you have lifted him above poverty, nearness, asking charity, and have set his feet in the path toward manhood.—Selected.

....I have often wondered how it is that even man loves himself more than the rest of men, yet sets less value on his own opinion of himself than on the opinion of others. If their good or wise teacher should present himself to a man, which he would not express as soon as he received it, he could not endure it even for a single day. So much more respect have we for the opinion of others than of our own, that we shall think of ourselves.—Marcus Aurelius.

....My heart is fixed firm and stable in the belief that ultimately the sunshine and summer, the flowers and the azure sky, shall become, as we were, interwoven with the man's existence. He shall take from all their beauty and enjoy their glory.—Richard Jeffries.

....We would be wise if we so adjusted our relations with others that all our days we should be under the sway of the good, the worthy, the pure-hearted, the heavenly. Then, as their friends, we should seek ever to bring into the lives of others only the highest, the most uplifting and inspiring, the most wholesome and enriching influence.

....Go with mean people, and you think life is mean. Then read "Plutarch," and the world is a proud place, peopled with men of positive quality, with heroes and demigods standing around us, who will not let us sleep.—Emerson.

....Our sympathy is never very deep unless founded on our own feelings. We pity, but we do not enter into the grief which we have never felt.—L. E. Landon.

....Men and women in the thick of life do not go helpless when there is such help at hand; when the Holy Spirit is waiting to show you Christ and give you in Him the fullness of faith and delightfulness of duty.—Phillips Brooks.

....Magnanimity is sufficiently defined by its name; yet we may say of it that it is the good sense of pride, and the sense of acquiring applause.—Rochefoucauld.

....The last thing for one in bereavement, seeking comfort, is to be idle. Then the grief feeds upon the life itself, and wastes and wears it out. But when in our sorrow we turn away from self to ministries of love for those who are hearts find comfort. Thus, and thus only, can we learn to live without one who has been everything to us in the past.—J. R. Miller.

....The useful citizen holds his time, his trouble, his money and his life always ready at the hint of his country. The useful citizen is a mighty, unperturbed hero; but we are not going to be a country very long unless such heroism is developed.—Charles Lowell.

....Each human soul is a whole orchestra in itself. But it is not always in tune, and before it can begin to make sweet music its many chords must all be brought into accord. This is the work of spiritual culture. It is achieved only by the submission of the whole life to God. This is the work which divine grace sets itself to do. If we would have this result achieved we must sweetly and earnestly yield ourselves to God. He may bring us into tune with His own Spirit and teach us to make heavenly music in this world.

....It is a great thing for us to do the best we can just where we are. God asks no one of us to do more than this, nor has any one of us a right to do less.—M. D. Babcock.

Popular Science.

—A unique institution is the Pathological Museum at Berlin. This was established by Professor Virchow, and contains 23,000 preparations of a pathological kind, with elaborate arrangements for preserving, mounting and studying the specimens.

—Electrical reactions have been found by Dr. A. D. Waller of the University of London, to serve as a test of life in both animal and vegetable tissues. In this case the confining conditions of a human skin for grafting preserve their vitality at least two days, often ten days, and probably sometimes much longer. As confirming this conclusion, it is mentioned that carefully preserved skin has been used for six months, sixteen transplantations out of twenty-two proving successful.

—Important tests of the fatal proportion of carbonic oxide in the air have been made by Professor Mosso at the Turin Physiological Institute. A herculean subject was confined in a hermetically sealed iron chamber, the air of which was mixed first with 1-333rd of carbonic oxide, then with 1-233rd, and lastly with 1-233rd. On the last experiment the man ceased to breathe, being resuscitated only by oxygen.

—Alcohol is coming into considerable use for illumination in France. The fact is made luminous by the addition of sufficient coal-oil or crude benzine, or the ordinary non-luminous flame is used to give incandescence to a Welsbach mantle. The latter is of great importance. Some lamps have from sixty to eight hundred candle-power, and these large portable lamps, carrying their own illuminant, seem to have advantages over gas or electricity for many purposes. The best of the burners yield about thirty candle-power hours per ounce of alcohol.

Brilliantes.

There was never a song that was sung by thee. But a greater one was meant to be. There was never a deed that was grandly done. But a greater was meant by some earnest one. For the sweetest voice can never impart The song that comes from within the heart. And the brain and hand can never quite do The thing that the soul has fondly in view. And hence are the tears and the burden of pain. For the shining souls are never to gain. And the real song is never heard by man, Nor the work ever done for which we plan. But enough that a God can hear and see The song and the deed that were meant to be.—Benjamin R. Bulkeley.

I see my way as birds trackless way. I shall arrive—what time, what circuit first. I ask not; unless God sends his hail, three Or blinding fire-balls, or stifling snow. In some time, his good time, I shall arrive: He guides me and the bird. In his good time.—Robert Browning.

And others' follies teach us not, Not much their wisdom teaches; And most of sterling worth, is what Our own experience preaches.—Tennyson.

This well I know is truth, that a true man, Whatever mystery, or dark or fair, Life leads, to go where conscience points will dare. Come Joy, come weal, doing the best he can.

Will keep his hopes accordant with high plan. Nor stoop to feeble thoughts of weak despair. Bearing with strong heart what he must bear, Still struggling to the end as he began.

As a blind steed turned loose, and without guide, Shuns downward paths, and takes but roads that rise, And, if he fall, falls from the mountain-side, So a true man, perplexed, will seek the skies, Nor walk in lower ways that open wide. Led by aspiring faith that needs no eyes.—John Lancaster Spalding.

Be docile to thine unseen Guide, Love Him as He loves thee, And most of obedience are enough, And thou a saint shalt be.—F. W. Faber.

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Poultry.

How to Caponize.

The best birds to operate upon are chickens which have never yet crowded; and when about three or four months old is the right age. They must be kept without food for thirty-six hours or more before being operated upon. A good light (sunshine if possible) should be chosen to operate in, and the full light should be allowed to shine in the chicken's side when opened. First take two good, thick pieces of string or thin cord, three feet long; to one end of each attach a weight, or any equivalent in the form of a brick or stone, fastening the other end of the string to the chicken's legs. Then lay the bird on its right side and drop the weighted end of the string over one side of the operating table. Now tie the free end of the second string round the bird's wings near the body, and drop the weighted end of this string over the other side of the table. The chicken will thus be properly secured, and the operator must stand so that the back will be towards him. The small feathers from hip-bone to ribs, over the last rib, must now be plucked off, and the ribs and feathers all round should be wet with a sponge dipped in quite cold water, if ice can be used if preferred. Now tie the free end of the string to the chicken's wing, and use it to serve to keep the feathers out of the operator's way, and will also numb the sensations of the fowl, so that it does not appear to feel the operator's knife. Stick the knife in half an inch deep between the first and second ribs from the hip-bone, and out downwards and forwards to the end of the ribs. Turn the knife and out nearly up to the backbone. Now put in the spreader which is one of the instruments used, tempering the spreader by a rubber band provided for the purpose, to suit the size of the fowl, and with the spreader open the ribs, after which split the inside membrane that covers the bowels. The upper testicle will now be exposed, and should be grasped by the grippers, which should be given one entire turn over, so as to separate the testicle from its attachments except the spermatic cord, and pull the testicle out. Treat the lower testicle in the same way. It is necessary to be careful not to rupture the large vessels under the testicles, and also to get the whole of the latter out. The bird may be untied and allowed to go without the incision being sewn up, but for a few days it should not be allowed to fly up to the roost. Birds may in this manner be caponized in any number and without loss of more than one or two per cent. Large breeds of poultry, when caponized young and well fed until ten or eleven months old and then fattened, will weigh twelve or fifteen pounds each, and the meat on them will be found of the tenderest and most succulent description.

It is to be noted that the chief dangers found in the practice of all systems of caponizing is in tearing the veins near the testicles, which results in the birds bleeding to death, and in the losing of the testicles among the intestines, which latter is almost certain to cause inflammation and death. These seldom happen except through want of care and experience, but it is important to have good light in order to prevent it as far as possible. The want of care can be avoided, and to overcome want of experience it is better for a novice to make his first experiments on a dead chicken, so as to learn exactly the place to be cut, and of the testicles. A little study of anatomy in this way is useful, and, in fact, it would be cruelty for any novice to commence operations on a living bird. The first time must necessarily be a practice of the nature of an experiment, and therefore there should not be any risk of giving unnecessary pain.

For all operations firmness and confidence are necessary, without which a bungle is sure to be made, and these are not to be had except there is actual knowledge of the subject and of what is to be done. This actual knowledge can only be obtained by experience. To watch a class of beginners at a poultry school attempting such operations on live birds is a sight which is closely supervised by a competent teacher. Some persons are very clumsy in the use of surgical instruments and should leave such work to more apt and careful hands. When students often become very quick and skillful operators.

Practical Poultry Points.

Alfalfa exists to a greater extent in fresh meat and ground green bone than anything else. Oyster-shell, grit and ground dry bones are used to form the egg shell. Of the various feeds, wheat, oats, barley and corn are the order named as regards material for making. Of green foods, stewed clover, turnips, cabbage, carrots, turnips, etc., are named. Turnips are over ninety per cent. water, and while they are better than nothing at all, they are a poor substitute for green feed.

Eggs kept at a temperature of between 40° and 50° above zero may be retained much longer than when the temperature is higher, and they must also be turned, so as to change their positions, or the period of their possible existence will be shortened. The longest period during which eggs have been kept and healthy chicks have been hatched is six weeks, they being stored in winter at about 50°, turned three times a week and placed in an incubator. After the sixth week and up to the eighth, the eggs gradually failed.

Six large eggs will weigh about a pound. As a flesh producer, one pound of eggs is equal to one pound of beef. About one-third of the weight of an egg is solid nutriment, which is more than can be said of meat. There are no bones and tough pieces that have to be laid aside. Practically an egg is animal food, and yet there is none of the disagreeable work of the butcher necessary to obtain it. Eggs, at average prices, are among the cheapest and most nutritious articles of diet. Like milk, an egg is complete food in itself, containing everything that is necessary for the development of a perfect animal. It is also easily digested, if not damaged in cooking.

Bran is excellent for poultry, and one point in favor of bran is that it contains a much larger proportion of lime than any other cheap food derived from grain, and of the shells of eggs are composed of lime, it is essential that food rich in lime be provided. It may be urged that the use of oyster-shells will provide lime, but it will be found that it is the lime in the food that is most serviceable, because it is in a form that can be better digested and assimilated than carbonate of lime.

Eggs laid by an active, healthy hen supplied with good, fresh food, are much superior to those laid by hens that are the common scavengers of back yards and pig pens. The difference in color, smell and taste is very evident to one who has given the matter a little attention.

Poultry and Eggs.

The market tends downward slightly, owing to dull demand, poor condition of shipments from a distance and increase of young stock as the season advances. Western broilers are rather plenty, and some fancy lots still bring 35 cents, but most sales are at 25 to 28 cents. Nearby broilers bring a little more than Western of same grade, and the difference is greater in warm weather. Squab-size broilers are increasing, and price has dropped 5 to 10 cents per pair. Fowls and old cocks are about one-half cent lower. Pigeons and squabs hold nearly steady.

Live broilers bring 25 cents if good and at least 14 pounds in weight. From nearby points they may fully as well arrive as dressed, shrinkage of dressing considered. Many lots are now shipped short distances by freight at quite moderate expense. But live shipments, either express or freight, shrink in weight greatly if there is any great delay from shipper to receiver, or if there is overcrowding in the crates.

At New York the market is considered in fairly good shape, receipts and demand both being moderate. Five cars of Western and Southern live poultry arrived Wednesday. Fowls 14 cents, chickens 20 to 25 cents, turkeys 10 to 11 cents. Old live pigeons sell fairly well at 35 cents per pair. Dressed stock sells rather slowly. Fresh killed turkeys and nearby broilers are in firm demand, if desirable in size and quality.

The egg markets of New York and Boston show no special change, receipts being moderate and prices firm. A representative of Griffith & Co., Boston, says: "Against 118,000 cases in the Boston coolers last year at this time we have about 150,000 to 155,000 cases now. In 1901 at the same time, we had 138,000; 1900, 111,000 and in '99, 83,000."

"The egg outlook is not the brightest. A great deal of this is due to the labor situation. We have about eighteen thousand men idle at Lowell, and every day that this large body of workers are out of employment the produce trade is affected just that much. If labor troubles increase instead of being settled at an early day, my idea is we will have plenty of losses before we close up the year."

"Our house does not store, but buys simply to sell others. Last year all the Boston houses did well. It was a record year for us, too. I ascribe a great deal of that to the fact that our policy is to sell as quick as a profit is in sight."

"It looks, however, as if the Eastern people went into the egg deal a little too strong this season. Last year they held back until after all the choice offerings were picked up and then had to pay the price set by the Western holders. It is too hot for me out West on butter and eggs. This year I believe I can buy lower in the East than I can in the West."

Horticultural.

Cabbages and Tomatoes.

One of the best paying crops we can raise in this vicinity are cabbages. They are generally a pretty sure crop, easy to harvest, keep well, and if you have some cabbages, which I presume every farmer does keep, there need be no waste, as all the outside leaves and soft heads can be fed, and they cannot be excelled by anything in the production of milk.

My method of raising them is to dress a piece of grass land, turn it over, harrow it well and then sow in the hill about fifteen inches apart and three feet between the rows, using a little fertilizer in each hill, and when they are large enough to transplant them to one in a hill.

The tomato is also a good paying crop as they are being used more and more every year and the season of their harvesting extends from the time the first ripe one is picked till the last green one. In the West we raise a plot of them and about the time of the first frost, the last of October, we covered them, vines and all, with about a foot of straw. They kept ripening till the middle of December. R. FAVOR, Middlesex County, Mass.

The Drought Grows Worse.

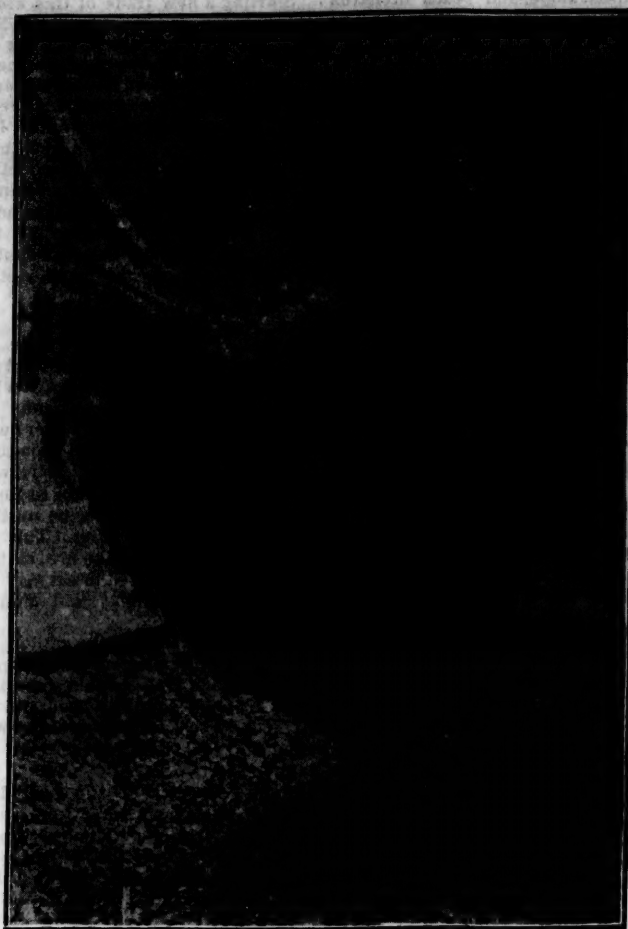
The following is the report of the United States Department of Agriculture, climate and crop bulletin of the weather bureau, New England section, for the week ending Monday, May 25:

Exceptionally warm weather, with drying winds, prevailed the first part of the week; the remainder was much cooler, with temperatures below the freezing point. The amount of sunshine has been excessive, and there has been but little precipitation.

Although scattered, local showers have occurred throughout New England, the fall amounted to practically nothing. The largest amounts are reported from Maine, Aroostook and Washington counties being more favored than the remainder of the State.

The droughty conditions that have prevailed throughout New England for the past few weeks have been greatly intensified by the weather conditions of the week just past. An abundance of moderately high, exceptionally drying winds, abnormally high temperatures, and an almost total absence of precipitation have brought things to pass that seldom exists at this season of the year. There is universal complaint from all sections of the district and the prophecies of the farmers are most pessimistic.

Both fall and spring-sown grain are feeling the effects of the drought most seriously.



PLYMOUTH ROCK COCKEREL, VALLEY CHIEF,
Owned by Valley Farms, Simsbury, Ct.

ously, the former heading low, and the latter turning yellow and ceasing to grow where already up. The later sown cannot germinate properly, and the outlook is very dubious. Corn already planted makes no material growth, and it is probable that fully one-half of the crop is not yet in the ground.

The prospect for the hay crop continues to grow worse; on high lands and sandy soil the grass is turning brown, and on low, favored lands alone is there promise of even an average yield. Many of the correspondents estimate the yield to be less than one-half the average. Pastures are suffering equally with grass and are as hard as wood. Alfalfa crops are in the north to affect in large quantities to make up the expected deficiency in the hay crop.

The week's reports confirm the statement that there has been an average bloom of apples, and the fruit is setting well. If, however, the drought continues much longer it will probably cause considerable damage to the young fruit. The depredations of canker-worms and caterpillars continue, and these pests are apparently fully as numerous as usual. The dry weather will cut down the strawberry crop to a great extent, and it is thought that the last frosts have injured blackberries and raspberries, which heretofore were in excellent shape.

The growth of all garden vegetables has been very slow, and they are greatly in need of rain; especially is this true of onions. The freeze of Sunday morning was very disastrous to many gardens, as the temperature was below zero, and the frost was unusually withstanding frost that occurs so late in the season.

Some tobacco has been set, but the bulk of the plants remain in the beds, as it is nearly impossible to set when the soil is so dry. More favorable weather must occur soon or this year's yield will be much diminished.

The Winnepesaukee valley, as well as the whole northern country, has been visited with a heavy frost Monday morning and the same conditions prevailed that night. The freeze was the most extensive in years. Ice formed as thick as window glass, while all kinds of early vegetation, in gardens, field crops, etc., was cut down. The mercury averaged 28°. The farmers are busy replanting seed.

Corn Steady, Wheat Lower.

Prices of corn and corn meal hold practically unchanged in the leading markets of the country. Quite a number of dealers believe the price will advance this summer, but the speculative market does not show that such a belief is general, corn for July delivery being quoted as low or lower than spot corn. Receipts of corn have been increasing at the large centres. The corn-growing belt does not seem to have been suffering much from the drought which is so severe in the East, and so far the prospect is good for the next crop.

Wheat has been kept somewhat above its natural price level by the Armour speculative operations, and the recent decline is supposed to be the result of a withdrawal of speculative efforts. The decline is, however, somewhat accounted for by the continued good outlook for the coming crop. Exporters seem to think prices will go lower, and are not buying much at present. It is thought, however, that the demand from Europe will be large. Millfeed, including bran, shorts, mixed feed, etc., has advanced somewhat in the face of lower prices for wheat. Flour holds about steady.

Provisions Tending Lower.

Fresh beef is quoted a little lower. Other fresh meats hold about steady, but pork provisions are a shade lower. Veal is a little better in quality, but many farmers are evidently trying to save milk or cream and many thin calves have been shipped. Lambs steady and in moderate supply.

The beef arrivals of the week at Boston were the largest for many weeks, being slightly in excess of those for the previous week. The total was 156 cars for Boston and 189 cars for export, a total of 345 cars; preceding week 199 cars for Boston and 142 cars for export, a total of 341 cars; same week a year ago 113 cars for Boston and eighty cars for export, a total of 192 cars.

Boston packers made a decidedly large kill of hogs. The total for the week was about twenty-three thousand; preceding week, 18,300; same week a year ago, 27,700. For export the demand has been smaller, the total value being about \$70,000; preceding week, \$117,000; same week last year, \$183,000.

The past week shows considerable increase in the marketing of hogs, in comparison with the recent past and also last year, according to the Cincinnati Price Current. Total Western packing, 485,000, compared with 420,000 the preceding week and 360,000 two weeks ago. For corresponding time

were as follows (twenty-five in number): "The American toasts (fourteen) were: "To America"; "To the King of France"; "To Congress"; "To the French Fleet"; "To General Washington"; "To the American Army"; "To American Independence"; "To the Alliance of France and America, may it never be broken"; "To the Minister of France accredited to Congress"; "To Mr. Franklin, American Minister to the Court of France"; "To the Friendship of France and to Liberty"; "To Commerce, Art and Agriculture"; "To M. d'Orville and his Army"; "To the Count d'Esting and Officers of the French Fleet in Boston Harbor."

The following toasts were proposed by the Count d'Esting (eleven of them): "To the President and all Americans Present"; "To Monseigneur the Duke of Chartres"; "To the Queen of France"; "To M. du Chaffault"; "To the Marquis de Lafayette"; "To the American Navy and its Ships of War"; "To all Women Who Have Lost their Husbands and Lovers in a Good Cause"; "To the Duke of Choiseul"; "To M. de Sartine"; "To M. de Maun"; "A. A. Folsom."

Emerson's Career in Brief.

Born in Boston, May 25, 1803.
Entered the Latin School, 1813.
Moved to Concord to live in the old manse, 1841.
Returned to Boston, 1815.
Entered Harvard College, August, 1817.
Graduated, 1821.
Taught in a school for young ladies in Boston, 1821-24.
Returned to Cambridge to study divinity, 1825.
Licensed to preach, Oct. 10, 1826.
Went South for his health, Nov. 25, 1826.
Returned, June, 1827.
Spent a year in Cambridge, preaching often, 1827-28.
Ordained as colleague of Rev. Henry Ware, Jr., minister of the Second Church, Boston, March 11, 1829.
Married to Ellen Louisa Tucker, September, 1829.

Death of his wife, 1831.
Resigned his pastorate, Dec. 22, 1832.
Sailed for Europe, Dec. 25, 1832.
Returned, September, 1833.
Began to lecture, November, 1833.
Went to Concord to live, October, 1834.
Married to Lydia Jackson, September, 1835.
Secured the publication of Carlyle's "Sartor Resartus," 1836.

Published "Nature," September, 1836.
Delivered his Phi Beta Kappa address on "The American Scholar," Aug. 31, 1837 (called by Dr. Holmes "our Intellectual Declaration of Independence").
Took part in the founding of "The Dial," 1840.

Published his first series of Essays, 1841.
Published his first volume of Poems, 1846.
Made a second visit to England, 1847.
Returned to Concord, 1848.

Published "Representative Men," 1850.
Published "English Traits," 1856.
Received from Harvard the degree of LL. D., 1866.

Elected an Overseer of Harvard College, 1867.
Visited California, 1871.
His house burned and rebuilt by friends, 1872.

A third journey to Europe, October, 1872.
Died at Concord April 27, 1882.

The secretary of State of Texas publishes a list of 274 Texas oil companies which have forfeited their right to do business in that State because of failure to pay the annual license tax. Almost every company on the list started off with a great blowing of trumpets, and the final death of these companies ends the hopes of several hundred thousand investors scattered all over the world. The Connecticut legislature is preparing a law to restrict the operations of fake oil and mining concerns, which have been robbing small investors right and left the past few years.

A Government coaling station to cost \$50,000 will be established at Dutch Harbor, Alaska. Dutch Harbor is located on one of the Aleutian Islands, and is on the direct commercial route between the ports of Behring Sea and southern Alaska and the Pacific coast of the United States.

The violet industry is said to be increasing in parts of Dutchess County, N. Y., the soil proving particularly well adapted to the crop and some of the finest blooms now come from Dutch Hook, Dutchess and vicinity. More than 125 violet houses, nearly all built within two years, are already being operated, and dozens more are being built. It is estimated that the sale of violets in the two towns in the season just ended exceeded \$200,000.

Dean H. J. Waters of the Missouri Agricultural College has been appointed superintendent of agriculture at the St. Louis Exposition, and has been given a leave of absence. Prof. F. B. Mumford has been appointed acting dean of the Missouri college of agriculture and acting director of the experiment station.

Argentina is having more trouble with the foot and mouth disease. Steamers from Buenos Ayres arrived at South African ports with foot and mouth disease prevailing among the cattle.

Wool Market Improving.

The shipments of wool from Boston to date from Dec. 31, 1902, are 92,295,904 pounds, against 97,726,421 pounds at the same date last year. The receipts to date are 81,103,764 pounds, against 95,885,856 for the same period last year. There is a better feeling in the wool market. Large sales of medium and low wools domestic and foreign have been made at no further concessions in prices. Fine wools are firm and bids within half a cent of asking quotations have been turned down by some holders. The West is excited and the new oil moving freely at all centres. Prices are higher if anything to the growers than last week. Foreign advices continue strong.

A Manure Shed that Paid.

My manure shed is built against the end of the barn, next to the cattle stalls, so all I have to do is to open the doors and pitch out the manure. The shed has a 14x20-foot stone wall under one end and side, and a rail fence at the other end next to barn, and here I keep my pigs in winter. I used round poles for rafters, straightened on top side, and six inches thick. The roof has a fair pitch and is covered with good shingles. I cannot give the exact cost as I did all the work myself, but the cash outlay was about \$12. Of course, differently constructed barns will need differently located sheds, but no one will ever be any poorer for building one. I truly believe mine has paid for itself many times, for my fodder crops have steadily increased every year since using it. J. A. SAUNDERS, Washington County, R. I.

Gen. William Heath.

Gen. William Heath of Roxbury was captain of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company in 1770. In 1778 he commanded the military forces in and about Boston. The French fleet, Count d'Esting, were here retreating. Heath, in his memoirs, says, Sept. 25, 1778: "The General Assembly made a public dinner for Count d'Esting, etc. The next day, the Count d'Esting, Marquis de Lafayette and a number of other officers and gentlemen dined with our general." The general does not record what was done at his dinner, but if an indebted to a gentleman for a translation of the list of toasts which were drunk the twenty-fifth. The escort that day was the Independent Company of Cadets. The account says the principal toasts

KITCHEN AND HAND SOAP.
The Best. Unequalled.
Cleans and Restores all kinds of Paint.
Copper Brass Tin
For removing Tar, Pitch, Varnish, Grease, Fat, Blacking and all impurities from the hands it is unequalled, leaving the skin soft, white and smooth.
BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.
FOR SALE BY ALL GROCERS.
Chas. F. Bates & Co., Boston, Prop'rs.

on board of them. The authorities insist that all the live stock on the vessels be slaughtered before the steamers are allowed to enter the harbor.

The American Orlington Club, Wallace F. Willett, secretary, East Orange, N. J., has just issued its first catalogue. The club, like its specialty breed, the Orlingtons, has made remarkable progress since its inception. Started at the Madison Square, New York, January, 1901, with four members, it gained six more the first year, forty-two more the second year, and has nearly doubled its membership during the four months of this year, having now eighty-five members, and being represented by twenty-eight honorary vice presidents in as many States and Territories.

The Vermont Experiment Station has just issued Bulletin 90, an eighty-eight page publication, concerning commercial fertilizers. It is the most complete bulletin of its kind thus far issued in Vermont, and is one of the most comprehensive publications on this subject that has been printed in the East. It not only gives a review of the trade of the year, but discusses the nature and use of fertilizers and gives suggestions as to choice, etc. The bulletin is well indexed and contains a dictionary of the terms used in fertilization. This is the first of a series of bulletins in which is expected to discuss the whole subject of fertilizers and fertilization from A. to Z. It may be had for the asking. Those desiring to receive future issues without further notice should ask to have their names placed on the mailing list. A postal card addressed to the Experiment Station, Burlington, Vt., is sufficient.

The live stock section at the St. Louis Fair will cover thirty acres of land. On this will be located between forty-five and fifty barns and a large amphitheatre, with an immense judging arena. Barns will be fitted to hold 300 head of either horses or cattle. In addition there will be a large dairy demonstration open to all breeds. Manager Coburn thinks there will not be less than \$250,000 for prizes. This is from sixty to eighty per cent. more than has ever been at the disposition of any live stock show or exposition. The Columbian Exposition at Chicago in 1893 had at its disposal \$142,000, though not all of this was expended in awards.

Three years ago the Chautauque grape belt put out eight thousand cars. According to report it appears doubtful if 2500 cars go out this year. The vines made poor wood last season. —Virginia leads in the South both in quantity, acreage and value of the potato crop, with West Virginia and Kentucky close in line. Texas has made great strides, coming close to Arkansas, while a few years ago Texas was practically unknown as an early potato State. While Virginia has double the acreage the production of Kentucky is nearly equal to that of Virginia.

GRAVES' MANGE CURE

For Dogs, Cats, Horses, Cattle and Sheep. All Skin Diseases they are subject to can be cured by this valuable remedy. Also

GRAVES' MEDICATED SOAP

For Fleas and Lice for Dogs, Cats and Horses. Sure to kill them quick.

No. 11 PORTLAND STREET
Boston, Mass.

Philander Williams,

Taunton, Mass.

Originator and Breeder of the Celebrated Autocrat Strain of

LIGHT BRAHMAS

Also Breeder of

DARK BRAHMAS,

BUFF AND WHITE COCHINS,

Buff and Silver Wyandottes, Buff and Black Cochins Bantams, Golden

Sebright Bantams and Yellow Fantail Pigeons.

POULTRY KEEPING.

HOW TO MAKE \$500 A YEAR KEEPING POULTRY.

A 48-Page Illustrated Book, Telling How to Do It, and All About Profitable Poultry Raising.

Containing Chapters on How to Make \$500 a Year Keeping Poultry; Poultry Yards and Houses; Choice of Breeds; Care of Poultry; Setting, Hatching and Incubation; Hatching and Care of Chicks; Fattening and Preparing Poultry for Market; Diseases of Poultry; Ducks, Geese and Turkeys; Caponizing; Receipts and Incubators; Use of Green Bone for Poultry, etc. Sent to any address on receipt of twenty-five cents. Stamps taken. Mention the PLOUGHMAN.

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Box 3954, Boston, Mass.

"Sweet and dainty as it can be—
Better far than coffee or tea—
Ask your dealer, —and always see,
That you get Cream of Chocolate."
—MOTHER SAGACITY

Cream of Chocolate

is a new combination of pure cream, pure loaf sugar and the finest flour of the cocoa bean.
For purity, flavor, aroma, convenience and economy it has no equal. Needs only the addition of boiling water to make a delicious beverage for either breakfast, luncheon or supper.
Doctors endorse it; all good chefs use it; everybody likes it.
Dr. F. F. Spaulding of Hottelbury, Mass., says: "Your Cream of Chocolate is delicious—perfect."
Dr. C. D. Gibson Mack, Boston, Mass., says: "I highly approve of your Cream of Chocolate in nervous diseases."
Dr. L. P. DeGrandpre, Worcester, Mass., says: "I have used of Chocolate in five or six of my patients has been greatly benefited by it. I can say myself in place of a kind of chocolate."

ASK YOUR DEALER
If he cannot supply you and so it seems and we will send you a 1-2-lb. can postpaid.

CREAM OF CHOCOLATE CO. 73 MAIN STREET DANVERS, MASS.

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN

TELEPHONE NO. 3707 MAIN.

An original package by any other name would doubtless taste quite as pleasant!

It begins to look as if France had got enough of auto racing. And yet the smash was inevitable.

How soon we wonder shall we read the article on "How to Exercise when Going Up Stairs in an Elevator?"

The weather of the past week has been such that one could read with perfect equanimity of the burning of a big ice plant.

It is rather interesting to note in the pages of a sober contemporary the advertisement of a gentleman who sells tips on horse racing.

Emerson himself, one cannot help feeling, would have approved not only the spirit but the manner in which Boston celebrated his centenary.

Even the great majority who appear to feel no appreciable sorrow at the passing of the old Museum will miss the familiar nightly illumination.

Tree experts grow up on the Common almost as numerously as the trees, but they seem, as a rule, to be much better satisfied with the way things are taken care of.

With all respect to the New York Commercial Advertiser, its critical analysis of Emerson leads to the natural query: Who is this New York Commercial Advertiser, anyway?

Youth is distinctly taking to melody as a means of self-expression, but we cannot fail to note the healthful symptom that the Salem schoolboys' band has an evident tenderness from drums.

Out Brooklyn way people who like to go into the woods of Sundays to enjoy the intoxication of nature will sympathize with Judge Kelley's efforts to dishearten those who take to the woods for wilder forms of intoxication.

Are we satisfied with one-tenth of the world's commerce? A good many observers evidently feel that we ought to be and even set ourselves earnestly and humbly to getting an equal share of the world's artistic appreciation.

The recent scientific conclusion that a hot stove will weigh less than a cold one will be of little comfort to furniture movers. It may, however, possibly account for the number of persons who set their homes on fire by moving the kerosene stove without putting it out.

Makers of farm implements have petitioned the President for aid against thirty-three trusts and combines, which they claim have been advancing price of materials until the small concerns can no longer face the music. But, however lively the tune they dance to, it is the farmer, as usual, who really pays the piper.

The proposed new cider law in Massachusetts has a weak point, in that the working exemptions farmers who make cider and wine from the three per cent. alcohol limit. It is plainly unfair to no-license towns that the special permission should be given farmers to sell intoxicating liquors disguised under the name of cider or wine.

If the chief of the weather bureau can't make the weather, he at least gives proof of good intentions by inventing a device for mitigating a current hot spell by expeditiously cooling the air needed for one's individual consumption. Let us all hope that the "new" will work and won't cost any more than an electric fan.

If the present attitude of the public continues toward the inebriated traveler on the Saturday-night cars, conductors will be able to begin the week with more philosophy than has usually been left in their possession. Saturday night is not ordinarily the happiest in the week either for the conductors or for other sober persons who have to ride in the cars.

The Public Library has not decided to follow the example of some of the downtown restaurants and display signs declaring that the management is not responsible for overcoats, hats or umbrellas left by the owners just where they offer temptation to an occasional sneak thief. Considering the carelessness of the public, the aggregate loss is a surprisingly small one from year to another.

Drought and frost are a serious combination for market gardeners and fruit growers. Those who have had to replant a third time since this week's frost can hardly be expected to take a rosy view of the climate. At this rate, between freezing and drying there will be little left to grow in some gardens. The compensation for those who succeed in raising much of anything will be found in higher prices for vegetables and probably for fruit.

The cattle situation in New England is still more hopeful, no cases of the epidemic having been found for about a month past. Of course there is still the possibility that cases have been overlooked or concealed, but the reinfection, farm to farm, makes such chances unlikely. Boston officials of the United States bureau are as yet unable to fix a positive date for quarantine removal, but the prospect of early relief grows brighter every day that passes without unfavorable news from the inspectors.

Our German farmer visitors seem greatly pleased with what they see in this country. They declare that the Fatherland can teach us but little in the line of practical agriculture. Rumor asserts that some of them are already laying plans to buy farming property in the United States. It would be an amusing, but quite natural result of the Kaiser's enterprise "to uplift German agriculture," if it should be mainly apparent in sending over here still more numerous shipments of enterprising, ambitious German farmers.

The State-aided highways of Massachusetts and Connecticut have been improved with the district idea of making trunk lines of good roads. Thus in Connecticut are fourteen main lines of 1400 miles nearly completed and touching a majority of the towns. There is a 120-mile line along the old "Boston turnpike," near the Sound

shore, and fourteen trunk lines running north across the State and connecting in some instances with similar improved roads in Massachusetts. This is suggested the probability of national trunk lines of good roads, a prospect which grows brighter with the increasing interest in the plan project for national aid and supervision.

Foreign trading interests are reported much disturbed on finding that even if Congress has adjourned, Uncle Sam has in his coat sleeve weapons for commercial defence. The anti-adulteration clause, hidden away in the agricultural appropriation bill, appears to afford a convenient means of retaliating on Germany for the vexing restrictions on American provisions, fruit and other leading articles of export. The United States Agricultural Department finds that many German wines are adulterated before shipment to this country, and thus a chance is afforded to show German merchants how very troublesome a restrictive law may be when used to keep away merchandise from other countries. It is sometimes good for the commercial doctors to taste a sample of their own medicine.

Building up the Farm.

The practice of feeding grains and other crops on the farm and shipping the finished product, whether it be beef, mutton or hog meat, or butter or cheese, is one which Secretary of Agriculture Wilson has at various times as absolutely necessary to the upbuilding of American agriculture.

"It is time, and it has been time for some time," said Secretary Wilson, in speaking of the "rundown" farm, "that our farmers who are selling stock feed off the farm and shipping it abroad, should get it into their heads that it will pay them better to keep it at home and feed it. Every one will admit the wisdom of this, and yet thousands of our farmers continue the practice of selling everything they raise and do not think out any better plan. But we must keep the fertility in our farm lands if we would remain agriculturally supreme."

"Instead of this entire area is getting poorer and poorer. Keep the farm crops on the farm and ship the meat and the butter, and milk and cheese. That is the thing to do. Now, as one instance, American cheese and butter ought to go abroad, and we have had men out trying to find a good market for it in foreign countries. Our farmers can make the best and cheapest butter and cheese of any country in the world, but what have our agents found? Why, in the matter of dairy products one class of American farmers is furnishing the very weapons to enable foreigners to defeat other American farmers, with distinct loss to both classes of American farmers. We find European markets supplied by Danish butter and cheese. Yet, as I have often said, the Danes could not export a single cheese or a print of butter if the Mississippi valley farmer did not sell them the feed, and this at a detriment to the American farm soil."

Prosperous Women Farmers.

New instances of women successful in agricultural pursuits were mentioned in a recent address before the Massachusetts Horticultural Society by Miss Mary E. Cutler, who is herself a very successful farmer and fruit grower of Middlesex County, Mass.

"In these progressive times the handle of the agricultural tool is coming to know the grasp of the woman's hand almost as well as the handle of the broom, and many women are making reputations as farmers of progress. Among the agriculturists are wives, widows and maidens; women who have begun with small means, women of wealth who have entered the ranks for the pleasure they could get out of it or for philanthropic purposes. One and all are bright, intelligent women, and the large majority are educated and cultured. Some are in partnership with men, others own and manage farms for themselves, while many manage farms for other people. They are found in the largest numbers in Maine, New York, Pennsylvania, Minnesota, Illinois, Ohio, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Wisconsin, Nebraska, California, South Dakota, Nevada, Arizona and Wyoming. Some are cultivating thousands of acres, using the steam engine as a plowman. The majority conduct farms of more than a hundred acres, while a few are contented with a single acre, depending on the spade and hoe."

"Women lead in poultry culture. They began a decade ago. It has been an uphill struggle against prejudice. Few, it is said, make a failure of it, and the time, they claim, will soon come when women will be in the lead here in America. It controls the industry here in America. It pays a greater interest on the investment than any other branch of farming. The notable success of the few New England women farmers proves conclusively that education and brains are needed in the business. Two young women in Compton, R. I., are examples of college graduates going directly into outdoor work. These women saw a chance to make money by supplying Newport's epicures with dairies. Their spring lamb, young geese and hares, their spring lamb, young geese and hares, there isn't an 'ology' that they studied but contributes in some way to their success."

"In looking over New England's abandoned farms to see what they need to bring them back to fertility and prosperity, one might do worse than advise giving these deserted acres into the care of women. A flourishing little farm of three acres on the north end of Lake Champlain produces yearly more than 2½ quantities of fruit, which is marketed at the neighboring summer hotels. It is owned and run by Miss Frances E. Wheeler, for several years a stenographer and typewriter. It seems quite a change from a stenographer's place in New York to the ownership and superintendence of a duck and bee farm. Yet in looking backward the sense of harmony deepens between the two occupations. I have grown to understand that it does not so much matter what we do as how we do it, that the qualities required for a successful stenographer are equally necessary for a duck and bee rancher. In both callings, if success is to be attained, ignorance must be overcome by perseverance, tact and common sense. After several years of office work Miss Wheeler's hands became disabled and the problem arose how to save the little family home at Chazy, N. Y., with its bee plant."

"I hope it is no egotism to state that both in the floral and vegetable departments of horticulture, in which I have been engaged for the past seventeen years, I have been entirely successful. I was brought up in the business of market gardening. My father followed it before me, and being led to it both by circumstances and inclination, I naturally took it up. My home of sixty-eight acres is located in Holliston, Mass., on the Boston & Albany Railroad, twenty-five miles from Boston. The land slopes gently to the southeast and northwest, so that I can get two crops of early vegetables

on the southeast slope, and peach orchards and later crops on the northwest. The branches that I am most interested and engaged in are flowers, vegetables and fruits. Peach orchards occupy a large corner of my farm, and have been a source of profit. When the trees are young, vegetables and small fruits can be grown by the rows, thus using all the available land. Apples, pears, plums and small fruits I also grow for profit. If I can get a good living in sterile New England, and the soil on my farm is no better than that of thousands of others in Massachusetts, is it not an encouragement for those who live in the more fertile soil, from the Potomac to the Rio Grande, and from the Golden Gate to the Hudson, to engage in this same honorable occupation?"

"The success in this business is certainly not overstated by Miss Cutler. In the town where she lives she is considered one of the most successful and competent business farmers in the place. Her income from crops sold is perhaps larger than that of any one else in town. The general outdoor work and the marketing are left to a very competent foreman, but the owner makes the plans, looks closely after details, and sometimes lends a hand at the lighter and more agreeable work, having help in doors to perform much of the housework. Miss Cutler is a prominent grape grower, and finds some spare time to indulge in a musical and literary taste. It should be stated that her farm, a fairly good one, was inherited from her father, thus furnishing a start somewhat in the direction which she has followed, but the value and productive power of the place has been very greatly developed and increased, especially in the direction of fruit, flowers and vegetables."

The New Year Book.

The annual official publication of the Department of Agriculture, known as the Year Book, will be printed about June 15. Those who wish copies should apply to the congressman from their own district. The address of the congressman wanted will be given an application to the Department of State at Washington.

James W. Abbott, special agent for the Rocky Mountain and Pacific coast division in a special report, makes a review of the use of mineral oil in road improvement, and in the case of California, Mr. Abbott thinks that oil can be used to advantage at any place where the roads become very dry and dusty, and where water can be kept out of their foundations in the winter, so that they will remain firm and not give way beneath the oiled surface in the spring. The reliance must, he says, be upon oil with an asphalt base. William L. Hall in discussing the practicability of forest planting in the United States, says that the oil is not practical in those regions which are as yet well timbered, and in which the reproductive power is sufficient to renew the stand as the trees now standing are cut away. This includes the spruce forests in New York, Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine.

W. H. Beal of the office of experiment stations has an article in which he says: "Agricultural experiment stations are now in operation in every State and Territory of the United States, including Alaska, Hawaii and Porto Rico, and steps have been taken to establish agencies in the Philippines. There are sixty stations, employing nearly one thousand trained scientific and practical men in their work. During the fourteen years of their existence as a national enterprise there has been expended in their maintenance about \$14,000,000, of which \$10,000,000 came from the national treasury and about \$4,000,000 from State sources."

In an article on irrigation, Edward A. Beals of the Weather Bureau says that there are more than seven million acres of irrigated land in the United States. The total cost of the irrigation systems of the United States is \$64,289,001, and the value of the irrigated crops for the single year of 1899 was \$24,433,438, or thirty per cent. greater than the cost of the plants. The number of irrigated acres is 10,819, which gives nearly seventy-one acres to the farm."

Our Future Grain Markets.

Wheat growers of the Northwest are tired of sending grain a four months trip around Cape Horn and twice across the equator to reach the overloaded markets of Europe. They have been looking hopefully of late toward the Orient, and the chances for an outlet in that direction are very bright. Mr. Hill's new steamers of enormous freight-carrying power, and operating in connection with the Pacific Ocean, will provide ample transportation facilities at lower rates. According to Mr. Hill the Oriental grain trade naturally belongs to the United States and can be vastly increased.

"If only one-third of the people of the world are wheat eaters and the other two-thirds live on rice or maize or rye," said he, in a recent interview, "we must find our markets with people who are not now consumers of our crop. I believe that wherever the flour has been introduced to any race, with the single exception of the black race, they are ready to consume it from that time on. The Asiatic rice eaters are as fond of flour as the white race and as ready to eat it, if they can get it at a fair price."

"The question may arise, How can people who work for wages of from ten to fifteen cents a day, and have lived for centuries on just such wages, buy flour which must be carried across the Pacific Ocean? If they did buy it, without the aid of the grain elevator, we in this country would have to go to eating corn pone. We simply could not sell it to them."

"If we could sell them one bushel per capita it would take 400,000,000 bushels to supply China and Japan alone, to say nothing of the Straits Settlements and other countries having large populations."

"In the north and west parts of China there is an excellent farming country, where corn and wheat can be raised, but the products are so far from the dense population on the seacoast that they cannot be carried there. We may perhaps fear that Russia, with the Siberian railway completed, may enter into competition with us for the Asiatic flour or wheat trade. The transportation question settles that."

"The average rate on the Russian State railroads is 1.8 cents per ton per mile. If the actual cost of operation amounted to but two-thirds of this figure—1.2 cents per ton per mile—this rate, applied to the distance from that part of Siberia where the wheat is grown, would give a transportation charge of \$4.20 per barrel on flour, while it should be carried from our Pacific ports to Yokohama, Nagasaki, Kobe, Shanghai and Hong Kong for twenty-five cents a hundred, \$5 a ton, fifty cents a barrel."

"Russia is not in a position to compete with us at all even if the wheat and flour were carried to the nearest coast of its transportation to the Government. What applies in this respect to our wheat applies to cotton from the South and to every other article we export, even to iron and steel."

Starting a new trade of this kind is commercial pioneer work for which Mr. Hill is well adapted, because possessing the right combination of energy and daring with the touch of imagination needed to impart larger views in new lines of effort. Every farmer will wish him, and others like him, complete success. To find a new market for the ever-increasing wheat production of the Northwest would place the grain industry of the rest of the country also on a secure basis, as the surplus wheat of the other section could easily find a profitable sale if competition from the Northwest were removed.

Farmers Want Rain.

The seasons seem to have got somewhat mixed. The snow left us earlier than usual and the month of March was unusually warm and springlike. Farmers went about spring work with good courage. April was cool and fairly wet. Here we are the twenty-fifth of May; grain drying up, corn not half up and won't be until we have rain. Gardens are not up. The weather is so cold we had to make fire in the dining-room before we dared to eat our breakfast. Frost occurred Sunday and Monday mornings.

What stuff is up in the garden had better wait a while longer, for all is killed that was killed. My garden was planted May 8 in good shape as I ever did the work. The early peas were planted about April 16 and they look well; of the rest I have nothing to say.

Grass is thick on the ground and looks well. If we have a wet June we will get a good crop of hay. The pastures need rain very much. Cows are eating hay and meal. Will corn that has been planted three weeks come up if it rains, or must it be replanted?

Growth of Country Towns.

For several reasons country property in New England has been extremely cheap in relation to its real value for many years. To this fact, long so distressing to people interested in agriculture in this region of the country is due, however, a present tendency toward a revival of the local industry. Mr. Clarence Deming of Connecticut, in the Independent, has recently written of the many signs of resurrection. He showed that while ninety strictly agricultural towns of his State decreased in population from 121,124 in 1880 to 115,054 in 1890, they have made up more than half the loss by 1900, their population was 117,744. In the farming towns of western Massachusetts, there was a large decline in the number of inhabitants during the first of these decades, but during the last there was a slight advance.

But these new farmers are not natives. They are Swedes, Italians, Germans, and, especially here in Rhode Island, Portuguese. They do so cheap that they work for about half the rate of the old farmers. They buy it; and their naturally frugal habits and unceasing industry make them in many ways worthy successors of the old shrewd Yankee farmers.

The invasion of rural New England by members of those European races, which up to this time have for the most part settled in its cities, creates a new problem. To assimilate them is now the work of many a country town that has been altogether under Yankee influence ever since it was settled in the old Indian times. Prejudices in places of this kind are not soon or easily laid down, and it will doubtless take many years for the New England farmer of the old type to become used to the sight of a Catholic church in the village and the children of a much darker skin playing with his boys and girls in the district schoolyard. But he will doubtless work out his problem as well, and with as happy results to his strengthened and industrious community as the native city man has thus far succeeded with an exactly similar problem, which now, after many years standing, is quite uninteresting.

Alsike for Cattle and Bees.

When my apiaries numbered some six hundred colonies I tried to induce farmers in my vicinity to sow alsike. For a long time none would do so, but believing I had "an eye to grind" and that the arguments were a sharp trick to secure a lot of forage, free of expense, for my bees.

At length some of my friends sowed a few acres. One party, Captain C. of Bradford, sowed alsike and timothy mixed in equal parts. When the hay from this field was stored it was put in the middle of a mow and ordinary hay made the top layer. During the winter he observed a sudden gain in the quantity of milk he was producing, and asked his men if he had been increasing the grain ration. Being told no, he became curious to learn the cause of such a noticeable increase of milk. Examination of the hay disclosed the fact that they had just commenced feeding the alsike and timothy.

I brought up this topic in several beekeepers' conventions and in conversation with one of the most prominent Vermont beekeepers was told that he had experienced the same reluctance on the part of farmers to sow alsike. Mr. Manum commenced to furnish seed to farmers at his own expense, and after a few years declined to supply it any longer. Then the farmers declared they would sow no more alsike for his bees to feed on, to which he rejoined that if they did not know when they had a good thing they need not plant alsike. The farmers, having proved it to be one of the very best of feeds for their dairies, decided they could not afford to do without it, and the fields continue to abound in that particular section.

Bees assist in the complete fertilization of the blossoms, so insuring a full crop of seed. And on this point it is astonishing how much ignorance prevails. Many do not seem to understand how necessary are insects, and bees particularly, for this work of fertilizing blossoms. Some years ago a neighbor of mine came to me in a white heat, declaring he would sue me for damages, as his strawberry field, then in bloom, was being ruined by the bees that swarmed over the blossoms. That year was the only season when I ever secured any surplus honey from strawberry blossoms, and coincidentally there was the greatest yield of berries that has ever been known in that vicinity. It is usually too cool for the bees to work, or else rainy while strawberries are in bloom.

The Chinch Bug in Maine.

The chinch bug has been in Maine for at least thirty-five years. The region about Fryeburg is apparently the only locality in the State where the injury has been sufficient to attract general attention. Bulletin of the insect, giving in detail its life history, and the results of experiments upon its resistance to cold and wet.

Where bugs are found in considerable numbers at the edges of spots which they have eaten over, they may be destroyed by plowing under the strip in which they are hiding. Deep plowing, however, is necessary followed by dragging and rolling

in order to completely cover under all vegetation and close up all holes or passages through which the bugs might make their way to the surface.

Where Farmers Build of Glass.

Small farm greenhouses are a peculiar feature of several towns in the Sudbury valley of eastern Massachusetts. Instead of acres of glass under the management of a specialist, as in the market-garden districts near large cities, the houses here are often small and inexpensive, built by average farmers out of their own labor, and sometimes partly by their own labor.

GARDENING ALL THE YEAR.

Farmers in the section named raise a good many vegetables and understand the care of such crops. From summer gardening to winter gardening was a natural step as soon as the grower had secured a little surplus capital and the two branches of the business worked well together, since the care of the greenhouse came largely during the season when the outdoor business was lightest.

A SAMPLE GREENHOUSE.

A typical farm of this kind is that of F. W. Goodnow, South Sudbury. Mr. Goodnow is an all-around farmer, who keeps a fair-sized herd of cows and raises the usual assortment of fruit and vegetables, keeps poultry and enjoys the other common sources of farm income. A few years ago, imitating the example of neighbors, he put up a small greenhouse and filled it with tomatoes. Some time later, as skill and capital increased, he put up another house of the same kind, and recently a third house of the same description, but used for cucumbers instead of tomatoes. These two crops are the chief ones of the winter gardeners in the Sudbury district. The small houses recently built are of somewhat similar pattern, using a substantial wooden frame, large size glass, glass reaching nearly to the ground, and house heated by the hot-water system.

Many of the houses are sunk partly below ground to save heat. Where the location is a southern slope, the back wall is often left to the hill, and a three-quarter span roof put on, with the long side toward the south. These houses are considered the easiest to heat. In ordinary locations most of the houses have an even span roof, with the roof sloping east and west. Mr. Goodnow's new house is of this description.

SIMPLE AND SUBSTANTIAL.

It extends 20x50 feet, glass 10x15 inches, set in wooden sash. The roof extends to the surface of the ground, and below is a six-foot basement with cement walls and floor. The plants grow in wooden benches, raised about a foot from the floor, and filled with earth and well-rotted manure. Connecting with the north end is a small office structure, in the basement of which is the hot-water heater from which the flow and return piping extends into the glass house.

COST AND HEATING.

The house cost in all about \$600, besides the labor by Mr. Goodnow. A local carpenter, who has had much successful experience in putting up greenhouses, took the job with assistants, all working by the day, and Mr. Goodnow helping whenever possible. About half the cost was for purchase and setting up of the heating system. "Do you think hot water better than steam?"

"It is the only system possible for a small house. A steam boiler would require so much attention that a night engineer would be needed. Steam is used by large establishments because they can hire an engineer. The pipes for steam are smaller and cost much less for hot water. For a similar reason we use hard coal. Soft coal is cheaper, but requires more watching."

"Heating must have cost money last winter." "I paid \$16 for one ton of coal. The house used twelve tons a season. Prices of cucumbers and tomatoes have been quite good, and I have been able to make up for the cost of coal. Some houses in town were shut down all winter. One owner left some in the boiler. The frost got in and ripped the tubing all to pieces. With care, the freezing of the house would do good, because a great deal of the mould and disease in the soil would be killed. Some growers kill the germs and insects by heating the soil, but freezing works pretty well."

Now and then one of the farm greenhouses in the vicinity has been given up as unprofitable, but most of the farmers consider the business a paying one. Profits vary greatly from year to year, depending on the state of the markets as affected by Southern competition, the weather, general prosperity, etc. The average results show good returns for capital, labor and skill, and most of the growers say the greenhouses are the most profitable part of the farm.

Practical Fruit Culture.

For protecting all kinds of fresh wounds on trees one of the best applications is thin grafting wax. After cutting out black knot something of the kind is absolutely necessary to prevent the knot growing from starting again in the wound.

A symmetrical pruned gooseberry bush will consist from six to a dozen or so canes of all ages from one to about five years, and there will be approximately an equal number of canes of each age. In addition to the cutting away of old canes and superfluous young shoots the young wood on the old canes that are left is thinned out and headed in. The branches which are left are shortened back to from eight to twelve inches. A new shoot which is to be left to develop into a cane should be headed back to a height of from sixteen to twenty inches.

The grower for profit practices thinning to a high degree. Peaches should be eight inches apart on the limb, most pears ten inches, according to Prof. L. R. Taft. Frequently half the plants can be removed. Thinning not only produces newer and better colored fruit, but at the same time saves money and fertility.

That is peaches, apples, plums and pears can be picked at less expense when small than matured. Or, in other words, when the fruit is ripe we have only half the number of specimens to handle, and at the same time have more bushels.

Attention has been called to this breezy paragraph in one of J. H. Hale's recent talks to farmers: "In selling your fruit in the orchard, you give away the final profit to another fellow. Better make all you can out of your crop. With peaches, we pick them as they mature; with apples, we don't, but we must come to it. It pays to pick the crop several times over. At least forty per cent. of all apples go to waste. Good apples are going into market in smaller packages. Barrels hinder sales. We could trouble our sales by using better packages. Some years ago when potatoes were selling at fifty cents a bushel in Boston market, a Berkshire County grower, after much persuasion, induced a dealer to try a lot nicely

washed and put up in clean bushel bags, tagged with name of sort and grower. They sold quickly at \$1 each, and the dealer telegraphed for one hundred more. In Chicago I saw apples in boxes selling at \$3 to \$3.50, while in barrels they brought \$1.50 to \$2. The former was perfect fruit in attractive shape. You can do this in the Hudson valley with far better quality. Fruit not wanted at once should be paper wrapped and go into cold storage. Get commission men to visit you and see your orchards. Show them the strong sides and the weak sides of your business. Don't sell to them until they have paid you a visit. The profits of intelligent orcharding are beyond calculation. If we could capitalize our orchards, as is done in other lines of business, they would be fairly worth \$20,000 an acre."

Outdoor rose bushes have made fairly rapid growth, and many of them are now well covered with leaves. Up to now, the leaves, in most cases, have probably looked healthy enough, but we must be on the watch for one or other of the pests which so often spoil the appearance of our most highly prized roses. The young shoots are generally attacked by a destructive grub, or maggot. These insects roll themselves up in the leaves, which assume, in consequence, a curled-up, cobwebby appearance. Hand-picking should be resorted to, for rolled up leaves, in most cases, have probably looked healthy enough, but we must be on the watch for one or other of the pests which so often spoil the appearance of our most highly prized roses. The young shoots are generally attacked by a destructive grub, or maggot. These insects roll themselves up in the leaves, which assume, in consequence, a curled-up, cobwebby appearance. 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Our Homes.

The Workbox.

Use 2 skeins of three-thread Saxony, 4 steel knitting needles No. 16. Cast on 65 stitches, 3 plain, 1 puri, 3, alternately till you have finished 25 rows.

Right-hand Glove.—The palm facing the knitter and the thumb on the left-hand side. Work 13 rounds plain, on the 14th round begin to increase for the thumb, by knitting the first stitch plain, and knitting 1 plain and purling 1 in next stitch. Knit 27 stitches plain, 3 plain, 1 puri, 3, alternately for rest of round.

15th round—Like 14th round.

16th round—Thirty-one plain, 3 plain, puri 3, alternately rest of round.

17th round—One plain and increase 1 in next stitch. Knit 29 plain, puri 3, 3 plain, alternately rest of round. (This reverses the pattern, thus forming a small block.) Continue knitting in this way until you have increased 27 stitches, being careful to reverse the pattern, or block, every 3 rounds, making 53 stitches on the needle. Thread a needle with coarse cotton, pass it through the 27 stitches knitted for the thumb. Tie the cotton. Continue to work in the round also pattern, for 36 rounds.

First Finger.—Six plain, take a needle and cotton and pass it through all the stitches on the hand except the last 13 stitches. Now use a third needle. Cast on 4 stitches; this is for the inside of finger. Divide the stitches for the fingers equally on 3 needles. Continue to knit plain for 30 rounds, then, by knitting 2 of the inside stitches together. Knit 8 rounds plain, then decrease by knitting 2 of the inside stitches together. Knit 6 rounds plain, narrow, and then knit 3 all around until you have 8 stitches remaining on the needle, draw the wool through the 8 stitches, draw together, fasten the wool firmly on the wrong side.

Second Finger.—Put the next 7 stitches from the inside of the hand, on a needle. Cast 4 stitches on another needle, then take the last 8 stitches off the cotton on to a needle. Now pick up the 4 stitches cast on for the first finger, and work as before, making finger 6 rounds longer, previous to beginning to decrease.

Third Finger.—Take 7 stitches from inside of hand, cast 4, take the last 7 stitches off thread, pick the 4 stitches from inside of second finger, and knit as directed for the first finger, making 3 rounds more before beginning the decrease.

Fourth Finger.—Take all the stitches remaining on the thread, and pick up the 4 stitches from inside of third finger. Knit 36 rounds, decrease as before and finish the same way.

Now finish the thumb by taking stitches off the thread on to 3 needles. Work 30 rounds plain, and finish as directed for fingers.

Left-hand Glove.—Work as directed for the right hand until you have put your stitches for the thumb on thread. The thumb must now be on right-hand side, and back of the glove towards the knitter.

Canned Asparagus.

Wash the asparagus thoroughly, then cut the stalks to fit into a quart jar, lengthwise. Place them in the jars, heads up, filling each jar as full as you can and still allow for the stalks coming out whole, when cooked. Place the jar under cold, running water for five or ten minutes or until the next jar is ready. Adjust the rubber—a new one, always—and lay on a cover. Set the jars into a steamer or a large kettle with trivets to raise the jars from the bottom (a wash boiler with a rack of sticks will answer the purpose very well) and have enough lukewarm water in the kettle to come half way up to the tops of the jars. Cover the kettle, heat gradually to the boiling point and allow the water to boil 14 hours. Now remove one jar at a time, fasten and place to cool. When ready to use the asparagus, open the jar, add one-half teaspoonful of salt, place as before in the kettle of lukewarm water and heat to boiling. Drain off the water, draw on slices of asparagus carefully and serve on slices of buttered toast. For success in canning absolute cleanliness of hands, jars and vegetable is essential, and if available, pure spring water should be used. String beans may be prepared in the same way.—Good Housekeeping.

Mind Culture for the Looks.

Mind culture is now being used as a means of enlightening and elevating the countenance. A specialist frequently consulted in cases of obesity states that women who have induced to take up a course of study and stick to it systematically for a couple of hours each day have been greatly benefited. And he maintains also that giving the mind work to do improves an ugly or characterless countenance and renders a beautiful face doubly charming.

"Culture as a Practical Help to Good Looks" is the subject of a lecture that a young drawing-room entertainer, a college woman, has made popular lately. And she is so convinced herself of the truth of the argument that she has infected her hearers with belief in it.

One circle of intimates, two of whom are getting stouter than is good for their peace of mind, have tackled German as a pursuit affording work enough to suit the purpose.

"Art, literature, music, any study that will evoke and hold the interest and the following regularity cannot but influence the facial expression," said a preacher of the new cult. "Even enforced study will have a modifying, refining effect, although not of course to the same degree as if it were pursued with enthusiasm."

"The candidate for honors in this mental-physical culture should discover the study or pursuit that answers best to her natural taste and then follow it sedulously. No better proof of the mind's ability to influence the body's appearance is needed than the fact that you can feel a person engaged exclusively in mental pursuits the minute you see him. The school teacher, the minister, the professor, the scientist, can all be told by the face rather than the manner of dress."

Just a second, please—
To tell YOU that
Painkiller
(FERRY DAVIS)
is an infallible cure for
Cramps, Colic and all
Stomach Complaints.
For 25c.—a large bottle

"Just so, you can tell the person who is occupied, voluntarily or involuntarily, with commonplace mechanical things that make little demand on the thinking faculties. The habit of thought will affect not only the countenance but the person's walk and carriage."

"One reason why the bright, interesting-looking schoolgirl so often develops or rather retrogrades into the lumpish, stolid-looking young matron is that with the termination of school days and compulsory study and the entrance into another phase of life she has ceased to exert her mind. The mental faculties lying dormant, the body takes the one and exhibits a similar attitude of inertness and unliveliness."

"On the contrary, over-anxious students and care-worn people are nearly always thin, which is only an extreme of the principle that the mind's exertions overweight the body. A judicious exercise of the thought faculties and regular mental application to some interesting subject will prevent overabundance of flesh in the person of fleshy tendency. It will also supply the necessary interest and self-forgetfulness that will prevent the person of thin, nervous physique from getting thinner and more nervous."

"With the cultivation of the mind the face gains additional charm and more subtle play of expression."—N. Y. Sun.

Beautifying a City House.

There are so many pretty ways of beautifying a country house with the assistance of nature that it is odd that in the summer, when everything grows and blooms without trouble, outflowing are generally only used as decorations. It is very natural to feel that the window plants that have done their best all winter should need outdoor recuperation and rest, but seedlings would be as happy in a sunny, open window as in the open, and ferns and shade-loving plants should flourish finely. In a New York house, last season, a woman who stayed with her husband in town six days out of the seven tried the experiment of indoor summer gardening most successfully, and although outside of the house the streets bore the dreary aspect of a midsummer city, indoors everything was made lovely by growing flowers and foliage plants. The fireplaces were filled by logs of wood hollowed out to form troughs, and in these were placed the plants, which were watered with a watering can, which thrived beautifully in the open, shady chimneys. The windows all had boxes filled with annuals, which bloomed contentedly in their narrow quarters. In one sunny corner the indoor gardener had carried out the pretty conceit of a floral screen. It was a frame covered with large mesh wire setting, and on this she had trained flowering vines, which grew in a box attached to the bottom of each panel, one of which was covered with trailing nasturtium, another with white clematis and the third with passion flowers; all of these she coaxed into bloom successfully. In addition, she had stands for pots wherever light and air were attainable. These she used for massing color effects with the most happy results. In a country house summer/indoor flower culture would be still easier, and it would certainly add greatly to the beauty of an interior.

Suggestions About Swimming.
The following suggestions to boys and girls are from an instructor in the art of swimming: Never bathe alone if you can avoid it. If you get the cramp, do not fight the water aimlessly. Try to throw yourself on your back to float, kicking out vigorously, as cramp may often be checked in this fashion, and call for assistance. If you go to the aid of any one attacked by cramp, keep clear of them and do not let them clutch you. Assist them either by towing them by the hair or by pushing them in front of you, if possible.

Be careful not to swim out to sea without remembering that you will have as far to swim back. Girls should never bathe in a dress of material which, when wet, will cling round the neck, chest and arms. Dry yourself thoroughly after bathing, and quickly and take a short brisk walk to restore perfect circulation. When you get home, bathe the face and hands in soft water to prevent chapping.

Those who cannot swim should remember that in floating it is essential to throw the head well back, to fill the chest full of air and to have the legs and feet close together and under complete control. Extending the arms straight out on a level with the shoulders, or, better yet, is a good idea. To swim on the surface, a spot where the water shelves gradually should be chosen, and the friend assisting should stand about waist deep beside the learner with a hand placed firmly beneath the pupil's spine to afford moral rather than actually physical support. When the art of floating has been acquired, you can easily learn to swim with a little instruction from a friend who can swim, remembering to keep the head and chin well up, and to take long, even—not irregular or flurried—strokes.

A Real Old-Fashioned Garden and Its Arrangement.

"I wish you would tell me," said a young matron and flower lover to a more experienced friend, "just what people mean when they talk of the old-fashioned garden and how long ago it was. I have a fancy to turn one end of my little place into a real grandmother's garden, but when I get a floral catalogue, and consider what I must plant, I feel completely puzzled."

"I have nearly forgotten myself," answered her friend, "having given my attention entirely to more modern ideas—Italian terraces, English parterres, etc.—but I will try to help you. Let me see," she continued. "I think the best way would be for me to try to recall my childhood, when I played in my own grandmother's garden, and learned from her to know flowers and love them. The memory brings back to me a long brick walk, bordered with boxes, leading straight from a many-windowed, many-columned white Colonial house, set somewhat back from the village street, to what we called the front gate. The broad space in front of the house, consisting of about half an acre of land, was called the 'front yard.' Part of this was lawn with stately oaks growing near the house. The garden was further on, and concealed by the fence, which, however, did not hide its beauties from the passerby; for in those days people were quite willing that the former should enjoy the sight and fragrance of their well-kept flower beds. On either side of the box-bordered walk was a bed about three feet wide, filled with perennials, and I can remember now the pleasure attending the procession of flowers, and the excitement we used to feel as each lawn with stately oaks growing near the house. The garden was further on, and concealed by the fence, which, however, did not hide its beauties from the passerby; for in those days people were quite willing that the former should enjoy the sight and fragrance of their well-kept flower beds. 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